



POCKLINGTON CE (VC) INFANT SCHOOL

Sun Protection Policy

Date Reviewed:	June 2024
Date Due for Review:	June 2027
Contact Officer:	Gill Husband
Approved By:	Dr Lynn Bartram

Why have a sun protection policy?

We want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely. Schools have a responsibility to ensure that pupils are protected from overexposure to UV rays from the sun, and the National Institute for Clinical Excellence (NICE) guidelines for skin cancer prevention (2011) recommend that schools "develop, implement and monitor a specially tailored policy to ensure people are protected as much as possible". This is particularly important when engaging in school based activities such as sports days, outdoor PE lessons, outdoor excursions and water sports, where the potential for sunburn is higher. Although fair-skinned people have a higher risk of sun damage, sun protection is relevant to everyone. Developing a sun protection policy is an important step towards encouraging good health now and in the future.

The purpose of this policy is to clarify the position with regard to sun safety as part of a whole school policy (Health & Safety Policy) that seeks to encourage the health, safety, well-being and education of all pupils attending the school.

Parents/carers can ensure that pupils are adequately protected by providing them with:

- appropriate clothing, including hats, between April and September
- an application of a long lasting high factor sunscreen (SPF 15+) before school, and at lunch-time if necessary.

Teachers and other support staff are not legally obliged to administer sunscreens, therefore the support and co-operation of parents/carers is essential. Parents/carers have prime responsibility for their child's health.

Sunscreens

Sunscreens should not be used to prolong the amount of time spent in the sun but as a form of protection when other measures are unavailable or impractical, or when additional protection is required. At school this would include:

- outdoor breaks, particularly lunch-times
- PE or other outdoor lessons
- Sports Activity Day
- Educational visits

The school will encourage children to:

- seek the shade, particularly during the middle of the day
- wear hats
- wear clothing that protects the skin, particularly for outdoor activities and school visits.