



ASHTON GATE PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUN SAFETY POLICY

Rationale

Too much exposure to ultraviolet light (UV) radiation from the sun causes sunburn, skin damage and increases the risk of skin cancer. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to the lifetime risk of skin cancer. There is enormous potential for schools to prevent skin cancer in future generations. Schools are central to protecting children's skin. This is because:

- Children are at school five out of seven days a week at times when UV rays are high;
- Most damage due to sun exposure occurs during school years;
- Schools can play a significant role in changing behaviours through role modelling and education;
- Students and teachers are at risk of sunburn within 10-15 minutes of being exposed to strong sunlight;
- Students spend an average of 1.5 hours outside per day, more if involved in sports or outdoor activities;
- Skin cancer is largely preventable through behaviour modification and sun protection during early years

At Ashton Gate Primary School we want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely. We will work with staff, pupils and parents to achieve this by raising pupil and parent awareness.

Implementation

To improve sun safety at Ashton Gate Primary School, we will implement the following measures-

Curriculum

- All pupils will have at least 1 SunSmart lesson per year.
- We will talk about how to be SunSmart in assemblies at the start of the summer term.
- Sun safety is included in the PSHE curriculum.
- Develop resources concerning sun protection in the school library

Protection

- Shade - children will be encouraged to sit in the shade in the school playground.
- Sun shades (natural and man-made) will be available for children to sit under.

Clothing

- Children should bring sun hats to school to wear at playtimes and during outdoor PE lessons in the warm weather.
- Children should wear T-shirts which cover their shoulders at all times.
- Sports tops should not include vest tops

Sun Screen

- Sun screen use will be encouraged on school trips and for outdoor PE lessons.
- Children are expected to bring their own sun screen and apply it themselves.
- Children may only use their own sun screen.
- Staff will not apply sun screen to any children.
- Parents are asked to teach their children how to sensibly use and apply sunscreen and will clearly label them and put them in their child's bag for their own use.

Collaboration

The school will aim to work with parents, Governors and the wider community to reinforce awareness about sun safety and promote a healthy school.

This policy has been developed using guidance from [Sun Safe Schools](#) and [DEFRA](#).

Review

The Governors and staff will monitor and review the policy every 3 years.

Date approved by governors: June 2026

Date to be reviewed: June 2029