

Ysgol Penalltau

Sun Protection

Policy





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Rationale

This policy represents the agreed principles for sun protection agreed by Caerphilly County Borough Health and Safety and reflects our status as a Healthy School. It has been agreed by the governors and the school staff.

We want our staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely. We believe that sun safety is important to ensure that pupils and staff are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays in sunlight. We will work with staff, pupils, and parents to achieve this.

Education

- All pupils will learn about sun safety and protecting their skin through curriculum opportunities at least once a year (use of 'SunSmart' website resources).
- Parents and guardians will be reminded of the dangers of sun exposure and preventative measures, and informed of our sun safety policy.
- Pupils will be told about the importance of drinking more water when it is hot and will be encouraged to drink water regularly.
- We will regularly remind pupils, staff, and parents about sun safety through newsletters and letters regarding educational visits and activities for pupils.
- Staff will be encouraged to praise pupils that adhere to sun protection guidelines.
- Staff will be encouraged to remind pupils of the need for sun protection.

Protection

Shading

- Staff will encourage pupils to use shady areas of the school and its grounds during breaks, lunch hours, sports days, and trips out.
- We will hold outdoor activities in areas of shade whenever possible.
- We have shady areas at the school and will encourage pupils to use them.

Timetabling

- If the sun is too hot, PE lessons or any outdoor lessons will be held indoors, under shade, or will have their time slot changed.

Clothing

- We will actively encourage all pupils to wear a sunhat (ideally with a protective back flap) when playing outside.
- We will encourage staff and parents to act as good role models by practising sun safety.
- Pupils will wear t-shirts during PE or outdoor lessons to cover up their shoulders.
- Parents will be asked to ensure their children wear appropriate cover clothing during sunny periods.

Sunscreen

- Parents will be asked to apply sunscreen to their children **before** they come to school. Parents may attend school during the day to re-apply lotion if needed.
- Parents and guardians should be advised to apply suitable sunscreen with a high sun protection factor (SPF) and UVA star rating to their child prior to taking them to school which, combined with the provision of shaded areas for play and outdoor lessons, should offer adequate protection for the duration of the school day.
- Older pupils will be allowed, and encouraged, to bring sunscreen for personal use when on residential courses.

Extreme Weather Conditions Protocol

In cases of extreme weather conditions, the school's sun safety protocols may be revised to ensure the well-being of all students. During such times, children may be allowed to self-administer sun protection measures. This policy will also apply to school trips on extremely hot days, particularly for younger pupils, to ensure they remain safe and protected from the sun. In these instances sun screen must be clearly labelled with the pupils' name. In these circumstances School staff must supervise children as a group to apply the sunscreen and this would be in addition to rather than instead of parents applying before school. School staff should be informed that they are not to apply sunscreen to pupils during school hours, including staff applying the sun cream to their own children during the school day where applicable.

Medical conditions

Any pupil who has medical conditions, which may put them at greater risk of developing heat stress, heat exhaustion or skin damage should be considered on a case-by-case basis for which a medical care plan would be created.