

Morecambe Road School

Sun Protection Policy – June 2025

At Morecambe Road School we acknowledge the importance of sun protection and want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely.

We are registered as a Sun Safe School and complete the requirements annually to maintain this status.

Whilst we recognise that some sun is good for us, over-exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation (UVR) is an important safeguarding issue for schools. During the warmer months of the year, children are exposed to UVR from the sun, often when penetration is strongest (between 11am and 3pm). Without adequate protection, a child's delicate skin can easily burn, causing cumulative and irreparable damage. This can significantly increase their risk of developing skin cancer in later life. Skin cancer is the most common cancer in the UK with rates of the disease rising faster than any other cancer. Around 90% of skin cancers are caused by over-exposure to UVR, so it is almost entirely preventable. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to a person's lifetime risk of developing skin cancer, highlighting the importance of schools and parents working together to increase knowledge and influence behaviours, ensuring children are protected against UVR and learn how to enjoy the sun safely.

We will work with staff, pupils and parents to be Sun Safe through:

EDUCATION – these measures are in place:

- A Sun Safe assembly for primary and secondary will be delivered.
- All pupils will have at least one 'Sun Safe' lesson in each of the Spring and Summer terms.
- We will talk about how to be 'Sun Safe' in the Spring and Summer terms and before the summer holidays.
- Parents and carers will be sent a letter explaining what the school is doing about sun protection and how they can help at the beginning of the Summer term.
- Teachers will be updated on how to be 'Sun Safe' at the end of the Spring term and information on sun safety will be provided in the staff room.
- We are committed to ensuring all staff are actively involved in the implementation of this policy and that they consider the UV forecast and sun protection/ control measures when planning outdoor play or activities.

PROTECTION – this is an on-going process:

Shade:

- On sunny days we will encourage pupils to sit/play in the shade where possible
- We have a shaded area on both playgrounds / fields (Gazebo's and trees)

Clothing:

- When outside in sunny weather, pupils are encouraged to wear hats that cover the ears, face and neck.
- Suitable hats are provided in school if pupils do not bring their own.
- We encourage pupils to wear t shirts instead of vests at PE time.
- All Teachers are encouraged to wear hats on yard duty and when teaching outdoors on sunny days.

Sunscreen:

- Sunscreen use will be encouraged on sunny days and during summer outdoor activities including PE, school trips and playtimes.
- All pupils will receive instructions on how to apply sunscreen thoroughly and regularly to exposed skin.
- Permission to apply sunscreen will be requested on admission to school. This will last the full period of attendance at Morecambe Road School unless a change is notified by parents in writing.
- We will stock extra sunscreen for pupils to use if they forget to bring their own.
- Sunscreen dispensers are accessible on the primary and secondary playgrounds.

Hydration:

- We are committed to ensuring children are kept hydrated with drinks, particularly water, available and encouraged regularly throughout the day, especially during warmer weather and physical activity.

Approved by the Full Governing Body on 18 June 2025

Signature: (Chair of Governors) _____

Signature: (Headteacher) _____