



## Sun Protection Policy

### Scope

This document establishes and details the sun protection policy for Old Rayne Preschool and it applies to all committee members, staff, parents/carers, staff and children. The policy offers guidance and education on protecting children from the sun and the application of sun cream in order to enjoy the sun safely. This will be implemented by sharing an information letter to all parent/carers and by following procedures within this policy.

### Aim

- The aim of this policy is to ensure that all children are protected from the harmful effects of the sun and that they are offered suitable protection at all times.
- At Old Rayne Preschool we want all children and staff to enjoy spending time outside safely without the risk of the harmful effects of the sun.

### Objectives

- To educate committee members, staff, parents/carers, and children about the importance of sun protection.
- To ensure children wear appropriate clothing during the summer months (April – September).
- To ensure each child attending has an effective sun cream applied.
- To ensure children have access to shade during outdoor activities.
- To work with committee members, staff, parents/carers, and children to achieve protection from the sun.

### Procedure

To be implemented during the summer months (April – September):

#### Education:

- All children will have a story time about the importance of sun protection during the spring term.
- All children will get involved in painting or drawing a poster to reinforce the sun protection message.
- This procedure will be reinforced through preschool newsletters and emails.

#### Protection:

- Children will spend more time playing outside before 11am when the sun's rays are weaker.
- Staff to hold outside activities in the shade where possible.
- Parents/carers are actively encouraged to provide children with a suitable named sun hat (ideally wide brimmed to protect the face and neck) and clothing for sun protection e.g. long sleeves, loose fitting and close weave fabrics.
- All parents/carers are requested to supply an appropriate, in date, sun cream with a minimum SPF of 30+ for their children before attending. We request that the sun cream has been previously trialled to ensure no adverse reaction by the child.

- All parents/carers must apply sun cream to their child before the start of each Preschool session in sunny weather during the months April-September.
- Written permission will be sought from all parents/carers; to allow staff to apply a top up of the child's provided sun cream, as necessary, during the session.
- If sun cream is forgotten or if it runs out, a permission form will be signed by all parents/carers allowing staff to use a Kids Hypoallergenic SPF 50 sun cream on a child; as protection from the sun is paramount.
- Sun cream will be applied by the child's 'Key Worker' with them washing their hands between each child's application as best practice from infection control.
- Staff should apply the cream at least 15 minutes before the children venture outside to ensure that it has started working. Remembering the ears, shoulders, necks, noses and tops of feet. The cream will be reapplied as per instruction on each individual bottle.
- If children are playing in water, their sun cream will be washed off and so will need to be re-applied once they have been dried.
- Individual arrangements will be made for children with medical conditions who are unable to wear sun cream.
- The same procedure applies when on outings or trips away from the Playgroup Hall.

### **Roles and Responsibilities:**

Committee members, staff, parents/carers should act as good role models by practising sun safety themselves; using sun cream and sun hats and wearing appropriate clothing.

- Parents/carers are responsible for:
  - Supplying a suitable sun hat (labelled with the child's name) and appropriate clothing, along with a suitable, in date, sun cream to a minimum SPF 30+ (labelled with the child's name) that can be kept at playgroup.
  - When children will be outside in sunny weather (during April - September) applying an SPF 30+ sun cream to their child before the start of each Playgroup or Two's Group session.
  - Providing a role model for the children in the wearing of sun hats and use of sun cream.
- The Committee and Manager are responsible for:
  - The implementation and review of the Sun Protection Policy and parent/carer permission letter on an annual basis or when events / legislation require.
  - Consulting with staff, parents/carers when changes to the Policy are required.
  - Providing a role model for the children in the wearing of sun hats and use of sun cream.
- The staff are responsible for:
  - The day-to-day implementation of this procedure.
  - Holding outdoor activities in shade wherever possible.
  - Ensuring that they are applying sun cream to the children and themselves at regular intervals and that they ensure children have the appropriate clothing and hats.
  - Providing a role model for the children in the wearing of sun hats and use of sun cream.
  - Encouraging parents/carers to be appropriate role models to their children by wearing sun hats.

## **Conclusion**

At Old Rayne Preschool we aim to promote children's good health and encourage their awareness of healthy practice. Your child's health and well-being are very important to us and we require the support of all committee members, parents/carers, staff and children in order to implement our Sun Protection Policy successfully.

## **References**

- *Care Inspectorate 2014: Management of medication in day care of children and childminding services*
- *Cancer Research: Sun Protection Policy Guidelines for Nurseries and Pre-schools*
- *Cancer Research UK's SunSmart website at: [www.sunsmart.org.uk](http://www.sunsmart.org.uk)*