

Hasland Junior School.

Sun Protection Policy.

- Why is Sun Protection important for children and young people ?

At Hasland, we are committed to ensuring that all activities / practices are only carried out after giving extensive consideration to the health and safety of all those involved.

We acknowledge the fact that many activities which take place in school, do so outside between the hours of 11.00am and 3.00pm.

We also acknowledge the fact that this is the period when the sun's rays are at their strongest.

- Why does prolonged exposure to the sun's rays cause potential health risks ?

We are aware of the research which links prolonged exposure to the sun with serious health issues including skin cancer.

Young children have more delicate skin than adults and are therefore particularly at risk from UV radiation from the sun.

We therefore believe it is important to do all we can to ensure that all children, those with fair and those with dark skin, are protected from over exposure to the sun's rays.

- What are the affects of our sun awareness policy on the curriculum and associated activities ?

Although we acknowledge the potential health implications caused by over exposure to the sun, we work hard to ensure that :

1. The risks to the children are kept to an absolute minimum.
 2. The curriculum and associated activities is not restricted or adversely affected.
- How do we ensure that the risks to the children are kept to an absolute minimum and that the curriculum and associated activities is not restricted or adversely affected ?
 - Through regular staff training, we ensure that all staff are aware of the health risks posed by over exposure to the sun.
 - We ensure that all staff carry out informal risk assessment before carrying out any activity out of doors. This includes risks posed by exposure to the sun.
 - All staff would cancel / reschedule / adapt activities out of doors if they felt their children would be subject to over exposure to the sun's rays.
 - All staff encourage children to dress appropriately when working outside. This includes appropriate dress for working in the sun.

- What would we see as appropriate clothing for children working outside in the sun ?
 - Long shorts or loose fitting long trousers.
 - Loose fitting T shirt, preferably with long sleeves.
 - Cap style hat, preferably with long fabric back.
 - Sunglasses. (When wearing them does not cause additional health and safety problem.)
 - Socks.

- How is the message of keeping 'safe in the sun' given to the children ?
 - Through assemblies.
 - By the class teachers prior to lessons / activities.
 - Through any relevant posters / materials displayed around school.

- How is the school policy on keeping 'safe in the sun' given to the parents ?
 - Messages are sent to parents at the start of the summer term to inform them of what they can do to help keep their children.

- What can parents do to help their children keep safe in the sun ?
 - Send their children to school in appropriate clothing.
 - Long shorts or loose fitting long trousers.
 - Loose fitting T shirt, preferably with long sleeves.
 - Cap style hat, preferably with long fabric back.
 - Sunglasses.
 - Apply sunscreen of at least factor 15 + to children before school.

- What is the schools policy on allowing children to bring sunscreen into school ?
 - Children are allowed to bring sunscreen into school, although if parents apply it before school, this would not be encouraged.
 - Children would be allowed to apply their own sunscreen if necessary, although if parents apply it before school, this would not be encouraged.
 - The staff will not apply sunscreen to children. If children need sunscreen to be applied by a third person, parents would be contacted and asked to come into school.

- What else can children do to ensure their own safety in the sun ?
 - Sit in the shade.

- Avoid running around excessively when the sun is particularly strong.
 - Ensure they wear appropriate clothing.
 - What activities could potentially result in children being over exposed to the sun's rays ?
 - Sports Day.
 - What will the school do to ensure risk of over exposure during Sports Day is kept to a minimum ?
 - Inform parents and children prior to the event of ways in which risks can be reduced :
 - Ensuring children wear appropriate clothing.
 - Ensuring that children wear sunscreen.
 - Ensuring that children have water to drink.
 - Where possible, position children out of direct sunlight.
 - In extreme cases, reschedule the event.
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We believe we are a **SMART** school, and as such, promote this message.

Stay in the shade from 11.00am – 3.00pm.

Make sure you never burn.

Always cover up. Wear a long sleeved T shirt, hat and sunglasses.

Remember – children can burn very easily.

Then use factor 15 + sunscreen.

Policy date. March 2014.

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Reviewed: October 2020