

WOODLANDS PRIMARY SCHOOL, HEDGEHOGS NURSERY & SUNBEAMS CLUB



Sun Cream Policy



Updated: July 2025
Review Date: July 2026

At Woodlands Primary School, Hedgehogs Nursery and Sunbeams Club (the school), the safety and wellbeing of all children is our top priority. Babies and toddlers have particularly sensitive skin and are more vulnerable to the harmful effects of the sun's ultraviolet (UV) rays, even during cooler months, and their curriculum involves them learning outdoors. To protect the children in our Hedgehogs and Squirrels rooms, we have developed this sun cream policy as part of our wider safeguarding approach.

Our Approach to Sun Safety

We follow a comprehensive sun protection routine that includes:

- Providing shaded outdoor areas for play.
- Encouraging appropriate sun-safe clothing e.g., sun hats.
- Keeping children hydrated by offering regular drinks throughout the day.
- Applying parent supplied sun cream (minimum factor of 30, 50 is preferred) to protect exposed skin during outdoor play, with written parental permission.

Parental Consent

Before applying sun cream, we ask parents and carers to provide written consent this will be either on parent pay or a form sent home. No sun cream will be applied without signed parental consent. This consent form includes any known allergies or skin sensitivities.

Sun Cream Application Procedure

- Sun cream is applied to all exposed areas of the child's skin 20 minutes before outdoor play.
- It is reapplied every two hours during prolonged periods outside and after water play.
- Staff are to always wear gloves when applying sun cream and always follow hygiene procedures.
- Staff explain the process to children in age-appropriate ways, using gentle language and modelling.

Sun Cream Provided by Parents

- Parents are to provide their own sun cream.
- All bottles must be clearly labelled with the child's full name.
- Sun cream will be kept in a box in the cupboard out of reach from children
- Parents should ensure the cream is broad-spectrum, SPF 30 or higher, and ideally water-resistant.

Storage and Hygiene

- Each child's sun cream is stored safely and hygienically.
- Sun cream bottles are checked regularly for expiry dates and replaced when necessary.

Monitoring and Communication with Parents

- Parents are reminded at the beginning of warm seasons to check and update Sun Cream supplies and permissions.
- Sun Cream will be sent home at the start of the summer holidays and a new one is to be provided for the following year when we return.

- Staff provide daily updates through our parent communication system, noting:
 - 1) When sun cream was applied or reapplied.
 - 2) If the child played in the shade.
 - 3) Any concerns about skin reactions or sun exposure.

Role-Modelling and Sun Safety Education

Although our youngest children may not fully understand sun safety, we begin to build awareness through:

- Positive role-modelling by staff (wearing hats, sunglasses, and sun cream).
- Simple language and routines to encourage cooperation during sun cream application.
- Songs or stories that support early understanding of taking care in the sun.

Summary

By following this Sun Cream Policy, we aim to protect the delicate skin of babies and toddlers while promoting a safe, comfortable outdoor environment. We work in partnership with families to support sun safety practices both at nursery and at home.