

## Sun safety policy

At The Elms, Oaks and Maples Day Nursery we are committed to ensuring that all children are fully protected from the dangers of too much sun / UV rays. Severe sunburn in childhood can lead to the development of malignant melanoma (the most dangerous type of skin cancer) in later life.

We follow guidance from the weather and UV level reports and use the following procedures to keep children safe and healthy in the sun:

- Children must have a clearly named sun hat which will be worn at all times whilst outside in sunny weather. This hat will preferably be of legionnaires design, i.e. with extended back and sides to shield a child's neck and ears from the sun or a floppy hat with a wide brim, to provide additional protection
- Parents are requested to ensure they have applied sun cream to their child prior to arrival at nursery and children will always have sun cream reapplied before going outside in the hot weather
- Children must have their own named, high factor sun cream with a minimum 4 star rating, and a sun protection factor of SPF 30+ for staff to reapply
- Parental consent is sought at the point of induction. This enables children to have sun cream suitable for their own individual needs. Staff must be aware of the expiry date and discard sunscreen after this date
- Parents are requested to supply light-weight cotton clothing for their children, suitable for the sun, with long sleeves and long legs
- Children's safety and welfare in hot weather is the nursery's prime objective so staff will work closely with parents to ensure all appropriate cream and clothing is provided
- Staff will make day-to-day decisions about the length of time spent outside depending on the strength of the sun; children will not be allowed in the direct sunlight between 11.00am – 3.00pm on hot days
- Children are encouraged to drink cooled water more frequently throughout sunny or warm days and this will be accessible both indoors and out
- Children are made aware of the need for sun hats, sun cream and the need to drink more fluids during their time in the sun
- Shade will be provided in the form of a tree, canopy or gazebo to ensure children are able to still go out in hot weather, cool down or escape the sun should they wish or need to. A sun canopy is also provided on the children's turtle bus when in use for local walks
- Babies under 6 months should not have sun cream applied to their skin and therefore should be kept out of direct sunlight at all times, especially around midday
- Our nursery policy is in line with The National Skin Cancer Charity 'SKCIN' and their Sun Safe Nurseries Award Scheme

This policy was adopted on

01/12/2017

Signed on behalf of the nursery

*Paula Hunt*

Date for review

01/12/2019