Rooks Nest Academy

Sun Safety Policy

Rationale

This policy has been agreed by the governors and the school staff.

We want our staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely. We believe that sun safety is important to ensure that pupils and staff are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays in sunlight. We will work with staff, pupils and parents/guardians to achieve this.

Education

- All pupils will learn about sun safety and protecting their skin through curriculum opportunities and PHSCE at least once a year (use of 'SunSmart' website resources).
- We will talk about how to be 'SunSmart' in assemblies at the start of the summer term every year.
- At the beginning of the summer term every year, the website will remind parents and children of the dangers of sun exposure and preventative measures, and informing them of our sun safety policy. It will explain what the academy is doing about sun protection and how parents/guardians are asked to help.
- Staff will be reminded every year about the academy sun safety policy and the 'SunSmart' lessons that can be delivered. Information will be made available in the staff room.
- Pupils will be told about the importance of drinking more water when it is hot and will be encouraged to bring water to school and to make use of water coolers / drinks stations frequently.
- We will regularly remind pupils, staff and parents/guardians about sun safety through Ms Dawson's weekly message and letters regarding educational visits and activities for pupils.
- Staff will be encouraged to praise pupils that adhere to sun protection guidelines.
- Staff will be encouraged to remind pupils of the need for sun protection during social times if they are ignoring guidelines.

Protection

We will provide an environment that enables pupils and staff to stay safe in the sun.

Shading

- Staff will encourage pupils to use shady areas of the school and its grounds during breaks, lunch hours, flyers and trips out.
- We will hold outdoor activities in areas of shade whenever possible.
- We will work towards increasing the provision of adequate shade for all pupils and staff.

Timetabling

- When the temperature reaches above 23 degrees or a high UV level, we will reduce the amount of exposure time children have to direct sunlight, this includes lunchtime.
- If the sun is too hot PE lessons or any outdoor lessons will be held indoors, will be held under shade or will have their time slot changed.

Clothing

- We will actively encourage all pupils to wear a wide brimmed sunhat and sunglasses when playing outside.
- Parents/guardians will be asked to ensure their children wear appropriate cover clothing during sunny periods

Sunscreen

- We encourage parents to apply before school a factor 50, 5-star UV rated sun cream that has 8 hours protection.
- We WILL NOT hold a stock of sunscreen in the school.
- We would also never stop a parent from coming into the academy to reapply cream to their child should they wish.
- During periods where we are unable to limit the children's contact with the sun, such as **residential** or **academy trips** then we are happy for sun cream to be reapplied by the child during the course of the day.

Sunscreen will not be brought into the Academy (unless there is a school trip or residential) to prevent the risk of children with allergies/sensitivities coming into contact with someone's sunscreen and to prevent children from applying incorrectly and getting it in their eyes or it being ingested.

5 steps to be a Sun Safe Superstar:

- Slip on a T-shirt – this is to keep shoulders covered, and to prevent them from burning.
- Slop on the sunscreen – apply a good quality sunscreen with an SPF 50/5 stars with UVA protection prior to the start of the school day.
- Slap on a wide brimmed hat – to shade the ears, neck and face. Keep it in your school bag for any time spent outside.
- Slide on a pair of sunglasses – These will protect your eyes.
- Shade – seek shade during the hottest parts of the day; 11-3pm.

Let's all stay safe and enjoy the sun.

Review

This policy will be reviewed every year. Next review date: September 27

Head Teacher: Ms K.Dawson September 26

Chair of Governors: Mrs N Lomas September 27