

SUN SAFE POLICY

RATIONALE

At SBS we are committed to ensuring that all children are fully protected from the dangers of too much sun. Severe sunburn in children can lead to the development of malignant melanoma (the most dangerous type of skin cancer) in later life.

A combination of strong sun, high temperatures and humidity puts your child's skin at higher risk of skin damage in Dubai compared with other countries.

We enforce a "No hat, No play" policy. However, this alone will not protect your child's skin from sun damage.

AIMS

To ensure that all pupils, staff and visitors enjoy the sun safely.

PURPOSES

- To review the formal curriculum to ensure information relating to sun safety is consistent and up-to-date.
- To raise awareness of the whole school community of why we need sun protection.
- To ensure sun protection is actively promoted in all aspects of school life

GUIDELINES

- Ensure all school staff are aware of the importance of sun protection
- Adoption and enforcement of a 'no hat, no play' policy for all playtimes
- Ensure parents are informed of the importance of sun protection
- Ensure the outdoor environment has areas of shade to provide protection from the sun
- In the summer try to avoid exposing children to the hottest part of the day where possible
- Encourage parents/carers to provide children with appropriate clothing to protect them from the sun (hats, tops that cover the shoulders)
- Parents/carers are encouraged to apply sunscreen (factor 25+) at the beginning of the school day.

THE FOLLOWING PROCEDURES ARE USED TO KEEP CHILDREN SAFE 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 legionaries design (i.e. with an extended back and side to shield children's neck and ears from the sun) to provide additional protection.
- Children must have their own high factor sun cream named and dated. This enables children to have sun cream for their own individual needs. The British Skin Foundation recommends that all children, regardless of their skin tone wear sunscreen with an SPF of 15 or higher.
- Parents are advised to apply sun cream at least 30 minutes before their child's school day. This will be re-applied before going outside and as required throughout the day.
- Children are offered their drinks/water frequently during their outdoor playtime.
- Shaded areas are available to ensure children are able to cool down or escape the sun.
- 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.
- Staff will make day-to-day decisions about the length of time spent outside depending on the strength of the sun.
- In the summer months we will aim to schedule outside activities before 10am if appropriate.

Implementation Date: September 2019

Review Date: September 2020

Reviewed by: _____

**May Ann Angeles, DHA-RN
Lead School Nurse**

Approved By: _____

**Zara Harrington
Principal**