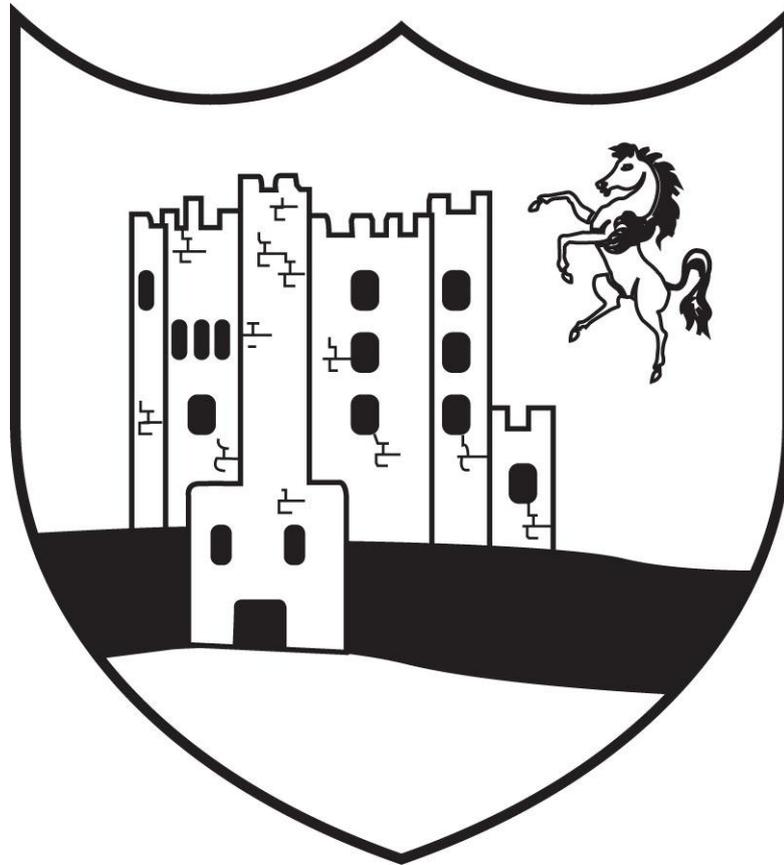


Balfour Infant School



Sun Safety Policy

Date: September 2025

Review Date: September 2027

Rationale

At Balfour Infant School we want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely. We believe that sun safety is important to ensure that pupils and staff are protected from sun damage and sunstroke. We will work with staff, pupils and parents to achieve this by raising awareness and putting in place strategies and reviews to secure the well-being of the whole school community. This policy sets out the framework within which we will endeavour to protect pupils and staff from the hazards associated with exposure to the sun.

This policy should be read in conjunction with the school's policies on:

- Health and Safety
- The Safe Storage and Administration of Medication
- Support for Pupils with Medical Needs

The Sun Safety Policy takes account of advice given by NHS England and it has been written in accordance with guidelines from Cancer Research UK's "SunSmart" Campaign.

Background Numbers of cases of skin cancer in this country are rising and most of these are due to exposure to UV radiation from the sun. Sunburn in childhood can double the risk of developing skin cancer and because the damage is not immediately apparent the problems can go undetected for many years. Young skin is delicate and more easily damaged, but most cases of skin cancer can be prevented by protecting ourselves from the sun.

There are three key elements to any Sun Safety policy:

- **Protection - providing an environment in which staff and pupils can stay safe from the sun;**
- **Education – learning about sun safety to promote safe behaviour**
- **Co-operation – working with parents and carers, and the wider school community, to promote sun safety.**

Protection

The school will take the following steps to provide protection from the sun:

Shade

- Children will be encouraged to sit in the shade.
- Inside options for playtimes will be made available when the sunny weather is prolonged.
- Children will be encouraged to keep hydrated by drinking water at all times, and on hot sunny days in particular.
- Timetabling of key events, such as sports day, is reviewed to avoid the midday sun.
- PE lessons are held indoors, under shade, or have their time slots changed.

The five key SunSmart skin cancer prevention messages are:

- Stay in the shade 11am -3pm
- Make sure you never burn
- Always cover up – wear a t-shirt, hat and wraparound sunglasses
- Remember children burn more easily
- Use factor 15+ sunscreen

Clothing

- Children should bring sun hats to school to wear at playtimes, lunchtimes and during outdoor PE lessons in the summer term.
- Children should wear T-shirts which cover their shoulders for PE lessons or long sleeves for playtime.
- All teachers, teaching assistants and lunch-time supervisors will be encouraged to wear hats when on playground duty and during PE lessons, when necessary.

Sun Screen

- Sun screen use will be encouraged on school trips and for outdoor PE lessons.

- Where parents/carers have given permission, children may bring their own sun screen and apply it themselves.
- Children may only use their own sun screen.
- School staff will not apply sun screen to any children.
 - Parents/carers are expected to apply sun screen before their children come into school in the morning and teach their children how to sensibly use and re-apply these Screens. If sent to school, sun screen will be clearly labelled and put inside the child's bag for their own use.
 - Reminders to apply sunscreen, wear hats, sit in the shade and drink water are regularly given.

Education

- We will talk about how to be safe in the sun in assemblies at the start of the summer term.
- Sun safety to be included in the curriculum.
- Parents and children will be provided with suitable information about the need for sun safety within the school newsletter.

Collaboration

The school will aim to work with parents, Governors and the wider community to reinforce awareness about sun safety and promote a healthy school. This policy has been developed using the Cancer Research UK SunSmart Guidelines for Primary Schools.

Hot Weather Plan

There is no upper limit in terms of temperature set within Health and Safety Legislation. However, Regulation 7 of the Workplace Health, Safety and Welfare Regulations 1992 "Temperature and Indoor Workplaces" says: "During working hours, the temperature in all workplaces inside buildings shall be reasonable".

The Headteacher, or in their absence the Deputy should monitor the weather forecasts and be ready to implement the Hot Weather Plan when temperatures near and exceed 30^o C.

- The school will allow both adults and children to dress more casually yet remaining smart.
- Children are supplied with a water bottle when they start school. Children are allowed free access to water throughout the school day. There is fresh drinking water available in the playground. Teachers must encourage children to drink adequate amounts of liquid throughout the day. Staff have access to water in the Staff Room and the Medical Room.
- For those areas of the school that do not have access to air conditioning, the caretaker will regularly check to ensure that all windows open adequately. They will endeavour to open all such windows before the start of the school day.
- All desk and floor fans are to be suitably located and working before the hot weather arrives. They will undergo an annual electrical test.
- Staff are reminded of the optimum use of air conditioning, keeping windows and doors shut and with window blinds closed.

- Staff may want the children to have more regular breaks so staff and pupils can drink and keep cool.
- Staff need to be observant and take action if a colleague or pupil shows signs of heat exhaustion.

Monitoring and Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed by staff and Governors as part of the policy review cycle.