

41. Sun Care

At La Petite Academy 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:

- Key persons will work with the parents of their key children to decide and agree on suitable precautions to protect children from burning, including those with more sensitive skins types and those that may be more tolerant to the sunshine, e.g. black and/or Asian colouring
- Children must have a clearly labelled 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 an extended back and side to shield children's neck and ears from the sun) to provide additional protection
- Children must have their own labelled high factor sun cream with prior written consent for staff to apply. 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
- When the UV level is moderate or above, parents must apply sun cream to their child before leaving them at nursery for their session; this may be done at home or on the nursery premises
- Parents must sign to say that they have applied sun cream to their child and that they accept responsibility for doing so
- Children who are not wearing long lasting waterproof sun cream and are at nursery for a full day session will have their sun cream reapplied after dinner; staff will sign to say that this has been done
- 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 gazebo on the top garden and a canopy on the bottom garden to ensure children are able to still go out in hot weather, cool down or escape the sun should they wish or need to.

This policy was reviewed on	Signed on behalf of the nursery	Date for review
<i>21st September 2017</i>		<i>September 2018</i>