**Sun Protection Policy**

At Fenwick ECC we acknowledge the importance of sun protection and want staff and children to enjoy the sun safely. Sunburn increases the risk of skin cancer and does not just happen on holiday. Skin can burn even when it is cloudy. The best way to enjoy the sun safely and protect your skin is to use a combination of shade, clothing and sunscreen.

The purpose of this policy is to clearly set out the responsibility of all staff in the matter of sun safety. This policy has been written with consideration given to guidelines issued by Cancer Research UK and the NHS.

**Who is responsible?**

1. It is the overall responsibility of the Senior Management Team (SMT) to ensure that all staff understand their role fully in protecting children from harm when exposed to the sun.
2. It is the responsibility of all staff to ensure that this policy is fully implemented at all times.
3. It is the overall responsibility of the SMT to ensure that there is written parent/carer consent to apply sunscreen to all children.
4. It is the overall responsibility of the SMT to ensure that sunscreen is in date and checked termly.

**How will this policy be implemented?**

1. In the UK the suns UV rays are the strongest between 11am – 3pm from April to September. Staff must ensure that children spend time in the shade between 11am and 3pm.
2. Staff must be mindful as the sun moves throughout the day, adapting shaded areas as required.
3. Children can wear UV protective sun glasses if they choose, however wraparound sunglasses are best.
4. Sun protection must be discussed with all children through appropriate dialogue and activities.
5. Staff should model and promote sun safety, helping children to learn and develop good habits.
6. Parents/carers must be informed of the importance of sun safety.
7. Staff should ensure that children’s clothing covers their shoulders, the more the skin is covered by clothing, the better the protection. Clothing should be loose fitting and dry. If children get wet, then they must be dried and changed into dry clothing.
8. Parents/carers should be encouraged to provide a hat for their child with a wide brim. The ECC should maintain a stock of hats to use if required.

**Sunscreen**

1. Apply sunscreen with at least SPF30 (UVB Protection) and 4 or 5 stars (UV protection).
2. For children with specific skin conditions / allergies, parents should supply suitable sunscreen for their child. This must be clearly labelled with the child’s name and D.O.B. This information should be detailed on the centres health overview and the child’s personal plan.
3. Parents may wish to provide their own sunscreen, again this must be labelled as stated in point 14.
4. Expiry dates of sunscreen must be checked prior to use (the letter m and the number on the bottle shows the number of months the sunscreen will last after opening) and a label applied to the bottle stating clearly the opening date.
5. A record should be kept for checking expiry dates.
6. Where possible, sunscreen should be available for parents/carers to apply to their child on arrival at the centre.
7. If children are exposed to the sun long enough to risk burning, sunscreen should be applied twice: 30 minutes before going out and then reapplied just before going out.
8. Sunscreen should be applied to all exposed skin (areas not protected by clothing) such as the face, ears, feet and back of hands.
9. Sunscreen should be generously reapplied throughout the day in-line with manufactures’ instructions for example, straight after water play, after sweating or when the sunscreen may have rubbed off.
10. On warmer days parents should be encouraged to apply sunscreen prior to drop off. This should be discussed with parents/carers at induction and highlighted within the parents/carer handbook.
11. When children access outdoor play from the point of entry, it may not be possible for staff to apply sunscreen 30 minutes prior to children going outdoors. If children arrive at the ECC with no first application, staff must apply immediately and then again after welcome time (approximately 30 minutes following arrival).
12. Staff must wash their hands after applying sunscreen to every child. Where possible children should be supported and guided to apply their own sunscreen.

**Sunburn**

1. If a child experiences sun burn whilst attending the centre, then staff must sponge the skin with cool water and parents contacted and informed. The child must then stay out of the sun until all signs of redness have gone.
2. If a child arrives at the centre with sun burn, then the child must be encouraged to play out of the sun until all signs of redness have gone.
3. Staff must encourage parents to seek medical help if a child with sun burn appears unwell or the skin swells badly or blisters.
4. If staff are concerned about a child’s wellbeing, then the SMT should be informed immediately and appropriate action taken.

**This Sun Protection policy is based on;**

* Cancer Research UK – Sun Protection Policy Guidelines for Nurseries and Pre-schools.

Accessed at <https://cancerresearchuk.org>

* NHS

Accessed at [Sunscreen and sun safety - NHS (www.nhs.uk)](https://www.nhs.uk/live-well/seasonal-health/sunscreen-and-sun-safety/)

* Health & Social Care Standards, 2017, 3.20 I am protected from harm by people who have a clear understanding of their responsibilities.

Accessed at: [www.newcarestandards.scot](http://www.newcarestandards.scot)

Created: 06 July 22

**Attachments:**

* **1:** Sun Cream Application Consent Form
* **2:** Details of Sun Cream used within centre (will be updated as soon as possible)
* **3:** Application of Sun lotion
* **4:** Suncream expiry information

**Policy reviewed:** April 2023

**Review Policy:**

**Attachment 1:** **Sun Cream Application Consent From**

Within Fenwick ECC children are provided with the opportunity to access our outdoor environment regularly throughout the session. It is important that they are protected from the sun. We ask that you apply sun cream before bringing your child to the Centre. If required staff will reapply sun cream during the session. All children must have an application of Sun Cream applied to them before playing out in the sun. Our policy states that we must gain permission before applying sun cream to a child.

* **Please apply Sun Cream to your child before coming to the Centre.**
* **We will have Sun Cream kept within the nursery and we can apply it with your permission.**

**Consent**

Child’s Name: ................................... Date of birth: ..................................

**I give/do not give permission for you to apply/reapply Sun Cream, you have provided for my child.**

**I can confirm that I have applied Sun Cream to my child before the nursery session.**

**I have provided a bottle of factor 30 sun lotion for my child.**

**(Allergies only)**

**I can confirm that my child has an allergy to a particular Sun Cream. I have applied my own to my child and also supplied a bottle and is clearly labelled with their name.**

Signed by:

Parent/Carer Name: ............................................................ Date: ..............................

**If your child has an allergy to a particular Sun Cream, you can supply your own and clearly label with child’s name**

**Attachment 2: Details of sun cream used within the centre.**

Attachment 3

Application of Sun Lotion Record

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Child’s Name | Date | Time Applied | Staff Initials | Location on body |
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 **Attachment 4 Sunscreen Expiry Checklist**

(Label to be applied to bottle on opening, clearly stating date opened)

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| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| Sunscreen (name/ brand) | Opened on (date) | Expiry( check letter M and number on bottle) | Checked by member of staff (signature) | Date checked |
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