

# St. Joseph's Catholic Primary School, Oxford

Headley Way, Headington, Oxford, OX3 7SX

Telephone: 01865 763357 Fax: 01865 308436

Email: [office.3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk](mailto:office.3838@st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk)

Website: [www.st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk](http://www.st-josephs-pri.oxon.sch.uk)



Headteacher: Mrs. S. Tomkys

9<sup>th</sup> June 2017

Dear Parents,

We are pleased to inform you that our school is taking part in a sun safety national accreditation. The scheme has been developed by national skin cancer charity 'Skin', to assist primary schools in implementing a successful approach to Sun Safety.

Whilst we recognise that some sun is good for us, sun safety is an important health and safety issue for schools.

**The good news is that skin cancer is almost entirely preventable and with parental support, simple steps can be undertaken to ensure that your child is protected and can enjoy the sun safely.**

Please take the time to read through our Sun Safety Agreement (overleaf), detailing the sun safety measures that we are implementing. There is also a leaflet for your information which has been sent home with your child today. Parental support will play a vital role in our efforts to implement this in the following ways:

- We make available sunscreen for the whole school and ensure that every child has access to quality, hypoallergenic sunscreen when necessary. ***If this is not appropriate for your child, please complete the attached form so that the school and class teacher are aware.***
- Children are strongly encouraged to apply their own sunscreen with assistance provided only where necessary to younger or less able pupils, unless otherwise instructed by the parent. Parents can provide valuable support in this respect by providing their child(ren) with additional guidance and practice on how to apply their own sunscreen effectively, with minimum mess!
- It is recommended that parents also apply sunscreen before school if UV levels are high (<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/uv-index-forecast>).
- We ask that parents also ensure their child has access to a suitable sun hat that is clearly labelled and kept at school from April through to the end of September. Sun hats should be either broad-brimmed (bucket style) or a legionnaire style to shade the face, neck and ears. **Baseball caps are not recommended.**

As we work toward our Sun Safe accreditation, all pupils will learn about sun safety in assembly and in class to reinforce key Sun Safe messaging and to develop their understanding of the importance of Sun Safety. Again, your support to reinforce this messaging at home will be of great benefit, helping to influence behaviours for a positive, Sun Safe future.

Yours Faithfully,

Jess Tweedie  
Deputy Head



## **Sun Safety Agreement**

The school will monitor and review the effectiveness of this Agreement.  
It will be updated on an annual basis.

### **Sun Screen**

1. We make available sunscreen for the whole school and ensure that every child has access to quality, hypoallergenic sunscreen when necessary. ***If this is not appropriate, we ask parents to inform the school so that that class teachers are aware.***
2. We ask parents/carers to teach their children how to independently apply sunscreen and assistance at school will be provided only where necessary, unless instructed otherwise by the parent/carer.
3. On moderate to high UV days we ask parents/carers to send their children to school with sunscreen already applied (<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/public/weather/uv-index-forecast>).
4. We actively encourage pupils to apply sunscreen when UV levels reach 3 or above before extended periods outdoors.

### **Sun Hats and Clothing**

1. We actively remind parents to ensure their child brings an appropriate sun hat to school/leaves their sun hat at school for use as required.
2. We make available additional/spare sun hats for all outdoor activities, events and school trips where children may have forgotten or lost theirs.
3. Uniform sun hats are available for parents to purchase.
4. We actively encourage pupils to wear their sun hat when UV levels are high.
5. Baseball caps are not recommended.
6. We use sun safe strategies to encourage pupils to cover up like *'No hat, play in the shade'*
7. We ensure pupils wear school and PE uniforms that keep shoulders covered. Vest/strappy tops are not school uniform and not allowed.

### **Shade**

1. We currently provide shaded areas outdoors where pupils congregate for outdoor play, lessons and activities. This includes trees and/or purpose built or portable shade structures.
2. We conduct shade assessments to consider future needs and are committed to investigating fundraising opportunities and improving shade solutions (such as gazebos for sports day).

### **Monitoring UV levels**

1. We are committed to monitoring UV levels daily during warmer months to ensure appropriate sun safety measures are implemented when necessary – this will be recorded on the board daily.
2. A child from each class is tasked with being the UV monitor. We display the days UV level to engage the children and reinforce the importance of sun safety on a daily basis.

### **Staff Modelling Good Practice**

1. We ask staff to role model good sun safety behaviours such as applying sunscreen and wearing a sun hat when UV levels are high.
2. We are committed to ensuring all staff are actively involved in the implementation of this Agreement and that they consider the UV forecast and sun protection/ control measures when planning outdoor activities or school trips.

### **Sun Safety Education**

1. We are committed to educating all pupils annually on sun safety using comprehensive, curriculum linked lesson plans, activities and resources.

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Please fill in the reply slip attached to confirm that you have received this information along with our Agreement. If you have any comments or concerns please let us know.

We thank you for your valued support.

**Date: 9<sup>th</sup> June 17**

## **ST JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL SUN SAFE SCHOOLS ACCREDITATION PARENT / GUARDIAN RESPONSE FORM**

I/we have received the school's letter detailing the parental support required, Sun Safety Agreement, and Sun Safety information booklet.

I have read and understood the information.

I/we agree / do not agree (delete as appropriate) to support the school as requested.

If you have a concern or comment, please indicate your reason(s) below (including any medical needs)

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Name of child \_\_\_\_\_

Class \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Signature \_\_\_\_\_