



## **Sun protection policy**

At Oasis Academy Harpur Mount we hold in high regard the safety and wellbeing of children, families, staff, students and volunteers. We encourage active, first hand learning through play both in and outdoors but we are very conscious of the fact that harmful sun UV and UVB rays can easily damage the sensitive skin of children. According to Cancer Research UK, sunburn in childhood can double the risk of skin cancer and through protection and working together we can help to try and minimise these risks.

### **Shade**

Children will be encouraged to spend time in the shade whilst outside, for example, under the canopied areas. To further protect children, resources and equipment where ever possible will be set up under shaded areas.

### **Time**

On hot, sunny days, we will encourage/support children to spend less time outside between the hours of 11am and 2pm, when the sun is hottest and highest in the sky. Free flow play and lunch/play times will still be available for children, but this will be closely monitored by staff depending on the heat and weather conditions.

### **Clothing**

Children will be actively encouraged to wear sunhats whilst playing outside. Parents/carers are recommended to provide their children with their own labelled sunhat to wear outside. We also ask parents to send their child to school in clothing that covers the shoulders and shoes with a back/back strap.

### **Sun protection creams**

We advise that parents/carers apply sun protection cream to their child before they come to school depending on the weather conditions.

### **Staff/students/volunteers**

The care of staff is also important. Staff are encouraged to wear sun cream when outside.

### **Water**

As always, fresh drinking water is provided for children to help them to stay hydrated and cool. Staff, students and volunteers are also encouraged to stay hydrated by drinking water. Staff will monitor children closely for signs of heat exhaustion and will recommend and assist them with ways to cool down.

**Policy created by – D McDonald, N Coverdale**

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