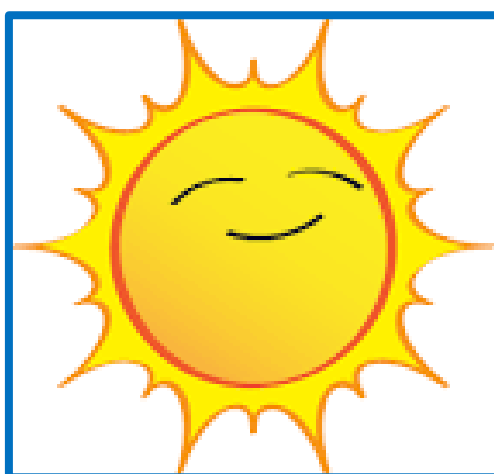




## EXPOSURE TO SUN POLICY



<b>Author</b>	Hannah Welch	Compliance Manager
<b>Approved by</b>	Joe Masterson	Headmaster
	Jo Storey	Group Lead Education, Compliance & Safeguarding
	John Forsyth	Chairman of the Forfar Education Group Governance Board for Harrogate Preparatory School Ltd, trading as Brackenfield School
<b>Next review</b>	Summer term 2026	

## PURPOSE

This policy is to be read in conjunction with other policies including the Health and Safety Policy, and the Educational Visits Policy. This policy comes into action if the temperature reaches 23 degrees or above.

Working in an environment which is very hot can be detrimental to health. Brackenfield School will follow a sensible and considered approach towards pupils and staff working in school. In addition to this, too much exposure to ultraviolet light (UV) radiation from the sun causes sunburn, skin damage and increases the risk of skin cancer. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to the lifetime risk of skin cancer. There is enormous potential for schools to help prevent skin cancer in future generations.

Schools are central to protecting pupil's skin this is because:

- Pupils are at school five out of seven days a week at times when UV rays are high.
- Most damage due to sun exposure occurs during the school years.
- Schools can play a significant role in changing behaviours through role modelling and education.
- Pupils and teachers are at risk of sunburn within 10-15 minutes of being exposed to strong sunlight.
- Pupils spend an average of 1.5 hours outside per school day, more if involved in sports and outdoor activities.

Skin cancer is largely preventable through behaviour modification and sun protection during early years.

## RESPONSABILITIES

Responsibilities of the Headmaster

The Headmaster and SLT will ensure that the necessary arrangements are in place to comply with the requirements of this policy.

Responsibilities of staff

Staff will follow guidance outlined in this policy:

- Ensure that pupils are protected from harm from the sun
- Ensure that they take adequate protection to keep themselves safe from harm from the sun.

Responsibilities of families

Families are responsible for:

- Providing their children with appropriate protection from the sun and ensuring that this protection is available from the start of the school day
- Supporting the school by acting as role models
- Using a combination of these sun protection measures when attending and participating in outdoor activities
- Providing their child with a Brackenfield School sun hat
- Providing a supply of sun cream to school with name of child and class on. Bottles will not be shared between children.

## SUN PROTECTION STRATEGIES

Staff will encourage students and staff to wear protective clothing during summer term.

- School Clothing; is made of close weave fabric and includes shirts with collars and sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts. Sports clothes should not include vest style tops.
- Hats: Pupils are encouraged to wear hats that protect their head and face, when they are outside.
- Sunglasses: Children's eyes are very sensitive to light. It is important therefore to protect their eyes by ensuring they wear wide-brimmed hats and sunglasses if appropriate. Sunglasses should have UV protection.(Look for BS EN 1836:1997 on the label).
- Hydration: Pupils are reminded, and encouraged, to drink water at regular intervals throughout the day and have access to water at all times in personal bottles in the classroom.

## SUNSCREEN

Covering up and seeking shade are the most important sun protection measures. In addition, sunscreen can provide protection to exposed skin. However, sunscreen should not be used to increase the amount of time spent in the sun. Pupils should be encouraged by parents to apply sunscreen before school starts – SPF 30 or above.

Pupils are encouraged to bring in sun cream for application during the day. Staff will remind pupils to apply sun cream. In Infants and Juniors, pupils will be encouraged to apply sun cream themselves, unless part of a specific personal medical plan approved by medical professionals in full collaboration with the child's parents or guardians. Pupils will be supervised when applying sunscreen. Please note sun cream is not supplied by school.

Only appropriate sunscreen which has no impact on a child's particular medical needs must be used.

## SHADE

- The school has a number of sheltered areas/trees providing shade in the school grounds particularly in areas where students congregate.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all outdoor activities.
- Pupils will be encouraged by staff to make use of available shaded areas when outside.

Other considerations for staff acting as role models by:

- Wearing protective hats, clothing and sunglasses when outside.
- Apply SPF 15+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen.
- Seeking shade whenever possible.
- Schedule outdoor activities before 11am or after 3pm.
- Include skin cancer education in the curriculum.
- Be positive in your approach.

Allow sun protection strategies to be fun, involve everyone, and provide choices. Staff can make a decision about how long pupils access outdoor areas if they:

- Do not have the correct clothing
- If the temperature reaches over 25 degrees



### Sun Safety/Sun Cream - Parental Consent Form

The school wishes to encourage pupils to protect themselves from the sun. One way of doing this is to use sunscreen at the appropriate time. You are asked to sign this form to show that you have received the policy regarding the school's approach to sun safety and support the guidance within the policy. Not all children are at equal risk of sunburn.

Please note school does not hold a general supply of sun cream. If you wish us to support your child with the application of sun cream you must provide us with a bottle with your child's full name and year group on and return the completed slip below.

#### Nursery & Reception Parents Only

The school policy states that whenever possible teachers will supervise the application of sunscreen. Sometimes it may be necessary for teachers or support staff to help children apply the sunscreen. Please indicate below whether you are happy for teaching or support staff to do this.

If your child has any allergies or skin sensitivities, you may want to check with your GP before providing a sunscreen. The school will inform you if your child has any adverse reaction that may be due to the sunscreen.

<b>PUPIL DETAILS:</b>		
<b>Surname:</b>		
<b>First Name:</b>		
<b>Class:</b>		
<b>Please tick:</b>		
I have read and support the school's exposure to sun policy <input type="checkbox"/>		
I will provide my child/ren with a non-aerosol sunscreen product (SPF 30+) for use at school and school outings in accordance with the school's exposure to sun policy <input type="checkbox"/>		
I give my permission for Brackenfield School teaching staff (inc EYFS staff) to apply sunscreen when this is considered necessary (Nursery & Reception children only), all other pupils will be encouraged to apply cream themselves with full supervision from staff <input type="checkbox"/>		
<b>Signature:</b>	<b>Name:</b>	<b>Date:</b>