

Little Treasures Nursery Sun Awareness Policy

Rationale

Young children need special care when they are in the sun. They love playing outdoors, but they are not aware of how the sun can damage their skin. So as adults it is important that we take precautions for them.

Getting sunburnt as a child leads to greater risk of skin cancer in later life, but good news is that sun damage can be avoided. Experts believe that 4 out of 5 cases of skin cancer are preventable. (HEBS 2000).

It is important that children, especially young children, are given the protection they deserve.

Aims and objectives

- To protect children and staff while they are in our care at nursery.
- To work in partnership with parents to protect children at other times.
- Staff should lead by example to help children understand the importance of keeping themselves safe in the sun.
- Parents should sign a consent form for application of lotion.

Implementation

- Staff are to be familiar with the risks of sunburn.
- Staff to provide protective care throughout the year and particularly over the summer months.
- Staff to take particular care when children are outside during the hottest part of the day between 11.00am and 3.00pm. During this period staff and children should:
 1. Wear sun hats.
 2. Wear clothing covering shoulders and arms.
 3. Only be outside for limited periods when it is sunny.
 4. Wear appropriate sunscreen.
 5. Wear sunglasses with appropriate UV filters (400).

- Provide shady areas outdoors.
- Parents will be informed about the nursery policy and can be encouraged to keep their children safe in the sun through:
 1. A newsletter at the beginning of the summer term.
 2. Information for parents from staff.
 3. Appropriate eye protection with brimmed hat and ideally sunglasses with UV filters.
- At the beginning of the summer term staff will explain to children about the need to keep safe in the sun and how to do this.
- Information will be included in the Admission pack to every parent when their child is enrolled at Little Treasures Nursery.

Reviewed April 2008