



**SAINT EITHNE'S PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**Care in the Sun  
Policy**

## Rationale

Research has shown that too much sun can cause skin damage including sunburn, premature ageing and skin cancer. A simple sunburn in childhood can lead to long-term skin damage and may increase the risk of melanoma in later life.

## School Practice

- To raise awareness among children of the dangers of excessive sun exposure
- To create a suitable outside environment that has adequate areas of shade and protection
- Sun awareness and sun safety issues will be addressed in the appropriate curricular areas, particularly the World Around Us, PDMU and PE
- We will address the issue of using clothing as protection: PE kit for outdoor activities, collared t-shirts & shirts, use of hats etc.
- Children are encouraged to use shaded areas of the playground on days when the sun is particularly strong, e.g. shade from trees, walls, buildings, garden structures
- Children are also encouraged to drink plenty of water as part of their care in the sun routine
- Appropriate precautions are taken on trips, after-school activities and sports day etc.
- We encourage the use of sun screen/creams in school and will remind parents via text message to apply sun cream on particularly warm days

## Staff

All staff are familiar with these guidelines and will ensure that they are correctly implemented. Staff will follow protection procedures and will act as role models. We will endeavour to convey a positive message so that children can enjoy outdoor safety by being “sun wise”.

This policy will be monitored, reviewed and amended as required.