



Warm Weather and Sunscreen Policy and Procedures

Introduction

Putnoe Woods Preschool are very aware of the damaging effects the sun can have on young skins. However, we also realise the importance of vitamin D for children and wish for them to enjoy sunny days using our outdoor facilities to their full potential. Therefore, we aim to protect all the children in our care using safety procedures embedded in our practice while promoting the children's knowledge of sun safety.

At Putnoe Woods Preschool we are committed to ensuring that all children are fully protected from the dangers of too much sun/UV rays. Severe sunburn in childhood can lead to the development of malignant melanoma (the most dangerous type of skin cancer) in later life.

In the EYFS at Putnoe Woods Preschool, children are encouraged to access the well-resourced outdoor play spaces as much as possible, but during the summer months we are aware of the need to protect them from the harmful rays of the sun.

This policy has been written using guidance from the NHS website and Skcin.org (a melanoma and non melanoma skin cancer charity who are dedicated to the prevention and early detection of all types of skin cancer).

3.2. Providers must take all necessary steps to keep children safe and well. The requirements in this section explain what early years providers must do to: safeguard children; ensure the suitability of adults who have contact with children; promote good health; manage behaviour; and maintain records, policies and procedures.

The Statutory Framework for The Early Years Foundation Stage 2023

We follow guidance from the weather and UV level reports and use the following procedures to keep children safe and healthy in the sun.

Staff and Parent Relationships

1. Key persons will work with the parents of their key children to decide and agree on suitable precautions to protect children from burning, including those with more sensitive skin types and those that may be more tolerant to the sunshine, e.g. black and/or Asian colouring



2. Parents are requested to supply light-weight cotton clothing for their children suitable for the sun, with long sleeves and long legs
3. Children's safety and welfare in hot weather is the preschool's prime objective so staff will work closely with parents to ensure all appropriate cream and clothing is provided
4. **It is the responsibility of the parents to apply sunscreen to their child prior to bringing them to preschool**
5. Parents / carers must have signed the registration form to provide their permission for staff to apply sunscreen
6. Should parents /carers NOT give permission for staff to apply sunscreen the must provide the preschool with a signed written statement confirming this
7. Staff will be proactive in implementing this policy and making considerations when planning outdoor activities
8. Staff will act as good role models applying sunscreen and wearing sun hats
9. Putnoe Woods Preschool will be proactive in sharing this policy with parents and carers to help raise awareness in staying safe in the sun

Children with Allergies

10. In the case of a child who has an allergy we would ask the parent/carer to provide sunscreen for their child and have their name printed on the bottle. This will ensure that sunscreen is only used by that child

Clothing, Sun Hats and Sunscreen

11. Children must have a clearly labelled sun hat which will be worn at all times whilst outside in sunny weather. This hat will preferably be of legionnaires design (i.e. with an extended back and side to shield children's neck and ears from the sun), bucket hat or broad brimmed hat to provide additional protection
12. Putnoe Woods Preschool will hold a quantity of spare sun hats
13. We will ensure that children wear sunhats when the UV levels reach 3 or above
14. We will encourage children to wear sun hats at all times
15. Putnoe Woods Preschool will actively remind parents to apply sunscreen before their child attends preschool and provide sunscreen, labelled with their child's name
16. Putnoe Woods Preschool will also provide a supermarket brand of children's factor 50 sunscreen
17. The staff at Putnoe Woods Preschool will reapply sunscreen at regular intervals as conditions require. Guidance from the NHS and Skcin stipulate sunscreen should be applied 20 - 30 minutes before going outdoors and if likely to burn apply again directly before going out. Sunscreen needs to be reapplied liberally and frequently, and according to the manufacturer's instructions. This includes applying it straight after you have been in water, even if it's "water resistant", and after towel drying, sweating or when it may have rubbed off



18. Sunscreen will be applied when the UV levels reach 3 and above and reapplied every 2 hours, as the sun can dry it off your skin

Shade and Time Spent Outdoors

19. Staff will make day-to-day decisions about the length of time spent outside depending on the strength of the sun and UV levels and during peak UV hours between 11 - 3
20. The preschool has some sheltered areas where children can enjoy outdoor play
21. Additional shade will also be provided to ensure children are able to still go out in hot weather, cool down or escape the sun should they wish or need to
22. Children will be encouraged to play in shaded areas as much as possible when UV levels are at their peak

UV Levels

23. Putnoe Woods Preschool will monitor UV Levels on a daily basis to ensure appropriate safety measures are put in place

Educating Children

24. Children are made aware of the need for sun hats, sunscreen and the need to drink more fluids during their time in the sun
25. During registration times staff will discuss how we need to look after our skin and protect it from the sun's harmful rays. The message will be re-enforced particularly in the summer term

Hydration

26. Children are encouraged to drink cooled water more frequently throughout sunny or warm days, and this will be accessible both indoors and out
27. Putnoe Woods Preschool will also provide ice pops during spells of warm weather

Indoors

28. If it is safe and appropriate, windows will be open early in the morning to allow stored heat to escape from the building
29. If possible, windows will be closed during the day when it is hotter outside than inside whilst considering the need to maintain ventilation and air quality
30. The preschool has air conditioning in all the playrooms and office
31. The preschool will shade sun-facing windows if possible, and close indoor blinds or curtains to keep the heat out



32. Where possible all electrical equipment will be switched off, including computers, monitors and printers when not in use - do not leave equipment in 'standby mode' as this generates heat

This policy is in compliance with Data Protection Act 2018

Putnoe Woods is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people, employees, students, volunteers, trustees and parents and expects all staff and volunteers to share this commitment.

Date of Policy: September 2014	Created By: Jo Skelton	
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Review Date	Reviewer	Amendments
September 2015	Jo Skelton	
September 2106	Jo Skelton	
September 2107	Jo Skelton	
June 2018	Jo Skelton	Added GDPR statement Clause 14 Education section

Putnoe Woods Preschool



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Review Date	Reviewer	Amendments	Policy signed off on behalf of the Board of Trustees
December 2018	Jo Skelton		
November 2019	Jo Skelton	New email address	
April 2021	Jo Skelton		
June 2022	Jo Skelton	Amendments with regard to SKcin.org and NHS	
June 2023	Jo Skelton	Indoor guidance added (Gov guidance - looking after children and those in early years settings before and during hot weather)	
September 2023	Jo Skelton	Ref to EYFS 2023	