



## 6.8 Sun Care

### Policy statement

The Playgroup is committed to ensuring that all children are fully protected from the dangers of too much sun. Young skin is delicate and very easily damaged by the sun. Therefore, it is important that all children in our care are protected. Children's safety outside in the sun is the Playgroup's prime objective so staff will work closely with parents and carers to ensure all appropriate cream and clothing is provided. Severe sunburn in childhood can lead to the development of malignant melanoma (the most dangerous type of skin cancer) in later life.

### Procedures

- Children must have a clearly labelled sun hat which will be worn at all times whilst outside in sunny weather. We encourage parents to bring in a suitable sun hat from home but the Playgroup does have a limited supply of spares.
- Children must have their own high-factor sun-cream named and dated with prior written consent for staff to apply. This enables children to have sun-cream suitable for their own individual needs.
- Parents will be asked to sign a consent form enabling us to apply sun-cream to their child, when we deem necessary. This is particularly important for children who are staying all day.
- Sun-cream will only be applied to children by DBS checked staff. Sun-cream will only be applied to visible body parts, and areas where clothing may move to expose more skin (e.g. legs above the hem of a skirt).
- Children need light-weight cotton clothing suitable for the sun, with long sleeves and long legs if prone to sunburn.
- Children are offered cooled water more frequently throughout sunny or warm days.
- Children are made aware of the need for sun hats, sun-cream and the need to drink more fluids during their time in the sun.
- Staff will make day-to-day decisions about the length of time spent outside dependent on the strength of the sun.
- If parents refuse to sign the permission form for cultural, religious or medical/health reasons, they will be encouraged to consider alternatives such as bodysuits.

