



# TOWN CLOSE SCHOOL

NORWICH'S FINEST PREP SCHOOL • FOR GIRLS & BOYS • 3-13 YEARS

## SAFETY IN THE SUN POLICY v2.4

As the health and well being of our school community is of paramount importance, we work towards protecting our pupils and staff from sunburn and from skin damage that can be caused by the harmful ultra-violet rays in sunlight.

We believe that by encouraging 'sun safe behaviour' at school and teaching children about the risks of sunlight, we can prevent them burning and contribute towards preventing skin cancer.

We will therefore be encouraging children to avoid sunburn and overexposure to the sun by:

- asking children to stay in the shade, particularly during the middle of the day. The School has actively developed additional areas of shade for example the outdoor play equipment in the Pre Prep playground and the woodland walk in the Prep Department,
- wearing their school sun hats,
- wearing clothing that protects the skin, particularly for outdoor activities and school trips. Staff are encouraged to model the wearing of appropriate headwear,
- during prolonged periods outside e.g. sports activities children will be encouraged to apply sunscreen at the start of the activity and to wear appropriate hats; and
- encouraging the children to use sunscreen (minimum SPF 15). Staff are able to help younger children to apply sunscreen.

We will endeavour to achieve these objectives through assemblies, PSHE lessons and everyday routines.

We will provide access to drinking water; water fountains are available for the children to use across all sectors of the School. All children are encouraged to drink at break and lunchtime. Furthermore, the Pre Prep children are provided with water bottles in their classrooms and the Prep children are able to bring their own named water bottle into school and/or use the water fountains around the School.

Pupils who are showing early symptoms of heat exhaustion will be moved into a cool, shady area and rehydrated.

The School will remind parents of the sun safety policy from time to time, particularly around the start of the summer term, sports days, trips and visits via the Head's newsletter.

Sunscreens provide added protection and may be useful when other measures are not available. Parents should apply a long-acting sunscreen (minimum SPF 15, but ideally, a higher factor) before children arrive at school. Products specifically designed to protect children for at least 8 hours are available in chemists and supermarkets. Children in Prep can bring their own named bottles of sunscreen into school for personal use. The school will provide a hypoallergenic sunscreen for use in Nursery and Reception, Year 1 and 2, as a top up if needed, for which parental permission will be sought in advance of application. We discourage parents from sending in bottles of sunscreen with young children as, if it has been applied at home and, with the school bottle available for top up, this allows us to ensure that children are protected from both the sun, and potential allergens from other sun creams.

On residential trips sunscreen will be reapplied when necessary.

*Last reviewed January 2024*  
*Next review January 2026*