



Salford C of E Primary School

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Dear Parents/Guardians,

We are pleased to announce that Salford Primary School is taking steps to implement a Sun Safe policy and teaching. The content of which forms part of our duty of care to ensure the health and wellbeing of your child/children during school hours. We hope you are aware of this following our newsletter last week.

This is a voluntary undertaking by the school following an invitation from Sun Safe Schools (an Award Scheme), which has been developed by national skin cancer charity 'Skin', to encourage the necessary culture change regarding attitudes towards sun safety required to combat the soaring rates of skin cancer in the UK.

Whilst we recognise that some sun is good for us (and we have our fingers crossed that we will have some sunny weather), we are mindful of the importance of protecting the children in our care from over exposure to UV during outdoor play and activities.

Skin cancer is now the most common and fastest rising cancer in the UK. Malignant melanoma, the deadliest form of the disease is now the most common cancer in young adults aged 15-34. Burning as a young child can cause irreparable damage to a child's delicate skin, that over time can develop with serious consequences.

However, the good news is that skin cancer is almost entirely preventable and simple steps can be undertaken to ensure that your child's skin is protected from the sun's harmful rays.

We therefore believe that together we have a duty of care to ensure that our children grow up with sufficient knowledge of sun safety and that all children at our school are adequately protected against the sun's harmful rays. As such, we will be utilising the Sun Safe Schools Scheme to teach all children the necessary sun safe messages with the engaging teaching resources supplied to us.

In order to gain our Sun Safe Status it is our duty to ensure that all parents/guardians provide both appropriate sun hats and quality sunscreen for their child/children that are to remain at school at all times during the months March through to the end of September. This is necessary to ensure that your child/children always have access to the appropriate items that will help protect them from over exposure to UV during outdoor activities and break times - the majority of which are taken at the hottest times of the day, when UV penetration is at its strongest.

Sun hats should be either legionnaire or broad brimmed, bucket style hats that shade the face, neck and ears. Sun hats will be worn during outdoor play/activities when UV

levels are moderate i.e. 3 or above. Sunscreen should have a minimum sun protection factor (SPF) 30 with minimum 4 star UVA protection. Sunscreen should be applied by the children before extended periods of time outdoors such as lunch breaks when UV penetration is at its peak. Both these items should be labelled with your child's name and class.

As part of our commitment to providing a sun safe environment we also recognise that role models have a key part to play in influencing children's behaviour. It is therefore important that both teachers and parents are seen to be actively adopting the same sun safe practices. As such, we have already supplied a 'Sun Safety & Skin Cancer' booklet that has been provided by the national skin cancer charity 'Skcin', for you to read and retain. Further copies of this can be found on our website.

As part of gaining our Sun Safe Status it is necessary for us to file evidence that all parents/guardians have received this letter and agreed to supply the above items. We hope you understand our concern for the health and wellbeing of your child/children and therefore ask that you kindly fill in the response form attached and return it to the school office as soon as possible.

To find out more about the Sun Safe Schools Award Scheme, the charity 'Skcin', or for further information about sun safety and skin cancer please visit www.skcin.org

Yours Sincerely,

Mrs K. Hill

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SUN SAFE SCHOOLS PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONSE FORM

I/we have received and read the letter regarding sun protection and the 'Sun Safety & Skin Cancer' booklet and hereby agree to supply / do not agree to supply (please delete as appropriate) my child with a legionnaire or broad brimmed, bucket style sun hat and quality sunscreen with a minimum SPF 30, 4 star UVA protection to be kept at school at all times during the months March through to the end of September.

Name of child.....Base

Signed.....Date:.....

If you do not wish to provide your child with the above items, we would appreciate any comments below:

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