Sun Safety Policy

Rownhams St John's CE Primary School

1. Rationale

1.1 Exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun is a leading cause of skin cancer. As a school, we are committed to ensuring the safety and well-being of our pupils and staff by promoting sun safety and reducing the risk of overexposure to the sun. This policy is informed by guidance from Cancer Research UK and aims to educate, protect, and encourage responsible sun behaviour.

2. Objectives

- To increase awareness of sun safety among pupils, staff, and parents.
- To create an environment that protects against harmful UV exposure.
- To develop sun safety habits that children can use throughout their lives

3. Implementation

3.1 Shade and Environment

3.1.1. The school will ensure that shaded areas are available in outdoor spaces, including playgrounds and sports fields.

3.1.2. Pupils will be encouraged to use shaded areas, particularly during peak UV hours (11am-3pm).

3.1.3. Outdoor events and activities will be scheduled, where possible, to avoid excessive sun exposure.

3.2 Clothing and Protection

3.2.1. Pupils and staff are encouraged to wear hats that provide shade to the face, neck, and ears when outside.

3.2.2. The school uniform policy will allow for sun-protective clothing, including long-sleeved shirts and longer skirts or shorts

3.2.3. Sunglasses that meet UV protection standards are recommended for outdoor activities.

3.3 Sunscreen Use

3.3.1. Parents are encouraged to apply a high-factor (SPF 30 or higher) broad-spectrum sunscreen to their children before school.

3.3.2. Pupils may bring their own sunscreen to reapply during the day, particularly before lunch breaks and outdoor activities.

3.3.3. Staff will remind pupils to apply sunscreen but will not be responsible for applying it unless in exceptional circumstances (e.g., for pupils with special educational needs and disabilities).

3.4 Education and Awareness

3.4.1. Sun safety education will be incorporated into the curriculum through science, PSHE, and health education lessons.

3.4.2. Assemblies and newsletter will be used to reinforce key messages about sun safety.

3.4.3. Staff will be trained on sun safety and encouraged to model good practices.

4. Roles and responsibilities

4.1 **Staff** will promote and reinforce sun safety messages, ensure children have access to shade, and encourage protective clothing and sunscreen use.

4.2 **Parents/Carers** are responsible for providing sun-protective clothing, applying sunscreen before school and ensuring their children bring sunscreen and hats.

4.3 **Pupils** will take responsibility for wearing appropriate clothing, seeking shade, and applying sunscreen when necessary.

5. Monitoring and Review

- This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure its effectiveness and alignment with the latest guidance from Cancer Research UK.
- Feedback from staff, pupils, and parents will be sought to improve sun safety measures where necessary.

By working together, we can ensure that our school community enjoys the sun safely while reducing the risks associated with UV exposure.