

St William of York Catholic Primary School
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Headteacher: Miss R. Adams



Dear Parent / Carer,

We continue taking part in the Sun Safe Schools national accreditation scheme - the content of which forms part of our duty of care to ensure the health and wellbeing of your child(ren) during school hours.

The scheme has been developed by national skin cancer charity 'Skcin', to assist primary schools in implementing a successful Sun Safety Policy whilst encouraging schools and parents to work together to increase knowledge, influence behaviour and prevent skin cancer. Whilst we recognise that some sun is good for us, Sun Safety is an important health and safety issue for schools. Children spend almost half their childhood at school, with approximately 8 hours per week spent outdoors.

Without adequate protection, a child's delicate skin can easily burn, this can cause accumulative and irreparable damage that could significantly increase their risk of developing skin cancer in later life. The good news is that skin cancer is almost entirely preventable and with parental support, simple steps can be undertaken to ensure that your child is protected and can enjoy the sun safely.

Please take the time to read through our Sun Safety Policy. Our Sun Safety policy provides details of the Sun Safety measures in school. Parental support ensures that this will play a vital role in our efforts to implement effective control measures particularly with the provision and/or application of sunscreen and sun hats. It will of course be necessary to take a practical approach toward the application of sunscreen. Children are strongly encouraged to apply their own sunscreen with assistance provided only where necessary to younger or less able pupils, unless otherwise instructed by the parent. Parents can provide valuable support in this respect by providing their child(ren) with additional guidance and practice on how to apply their own sunscreen effectively, with minimum mess! In-line with our Sun Safety policy we ask that parents ensure that their child is equipped with a quality sunscreen that is clearly labelled with your child's name and kept at school from April through to the end of September when application may become necessary.

It is recommended that all sunscreen provided by parents should have a minimum Sun Protection Factor (SPF) 30+, be 'broad-spectrum' to provide both UVA and UVB protection and if labelled with a UVA star rating, carry a minimum of 4 stars. It is recommended that parents also apply sunscreen before school during summer months. However, please note that your child will still need to reapply



their sunscreen at school to ensure protection during peak UV hours (between 11am and 3pm). We have access to additional suncream in school. Please let the school know if you do not wish this using the form below.

We ask that parents also ensure their child has access to a suitable sun hat that is clearly labelled and kept at school from April through to the end of September. Sun hats should be either broad-brimmed (bucket style) or legionnaire to shade the face, neck and ears. Baseball caps are not recommended. As we work toward our Sun Safe accreditation, all pupils will learn about Sun Safety in assembly and in class to reinforce key Sun Safe messaging and to develop their understanding of the importance of Sun Safety. Again, your support to reinforce this messaging at home will be of great benefit, helping to influence behaviours for a positive, Sun Safe future. Guidance and practical advice about UV, Sun Safety, skin cancer prevention and early detection can be found in the 'Sun Safety and Skin Cancer' information booklets provided with this letter.

Yours Faithfully

Mrs N Rabbett
Acting Headteacher

**ST WILLIAM OF YORK CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL ACCREDITATION PARENT / GUARDIAN
RESPONSE FORM**

I do not wish for my child to use suncream in school, I will apply suncream in the morning and provide school with a sunhat.

Name of Child.....Class.....

Signed.....Date.....

