

Perfect Start Sun Care Policy

At Perfect Start, we are committed to ensuring that all children are fully protected from the dangers of too much sun/UV rays. Severe sunburn in childhood can lead to the development of malignant melanoma (the most dangerous type of skin cancer) in later life.

We follow guidance from the weather and UV level reports and use the following procedures to keep children safe and healthy in the sun:

- Perfect Start will provide sun cream for all children. The brand that we will use is Boots Soltan Kids Sensitive which is factor 50+. If this brand is not suitable for any children due to a reaction to their skin, then an alternative must be provided by the child's parents with a clear label on. If in the event that the brand of suncream that we provide is not available, an alternative brand will be purchased (and parents informed of this change).
- Staff have a checklist with all the children's names on with which cream they are allowed
- Key persons will work with the parents of their key children to decide and agree on suitable precautions to protect children from burning, including those with more sensitive skin types and those that may be more tolerant to the sunshine, e.g. black and/or Asian colouring
- Children must have a clearly labelled sun hat which will be worn at all times whilst outside in sunny weather. This hat will preferably be of legionnaires design (i.e. with an extended back and side to shield children's neck and ears from the sun) to provide additional protection
- Parents are requested to supply light-weight cotton clothing for their children suitable for the sun, with long sleeves and long legs
- Children's safety and welfare in hot weather is the nursery's prime objective so staff will work closely with parents to ensure all appropriate cream and clothing is provided
- The Nursery Manager (or, in the absence of the Manager, the Deputy Manager) will make day-to-day decisions about the length of time spent outside depending on the strength of the sun; children will not be allowed in the direct sunlight between 11.00am – 3.00pm on hot days
- Children will always have sun cream applied before going outside in the hot weather and at frequent intervals during the day
- Children are encouraged to drink cooled water more frequently throughout sunny or warm days and this will be accessible both indoors and out. This must be provided for the children throughout all warm spells that are spent in the garden area.
- 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
- Shade will be provided to ensure children are able to still go out in hot weather, cool down or escape the sun should they wish or need to.