

# Little Acorns Preschool Sun Protection Policy

## Policy Statement

At Little Acorns Preschool, we are committed to promoting sun safety and reducing the risk of sunburn and long-term skin damage. The use of sunscreen is an essential part of our sun protection strategy.

The aim of the policy is to safeguard children from the harmful effects of sun exposure during outdoor activities at Little Acorns Pre-School.

This policy applies to all children, staff, and volunteers involved in outdoor play, outings, and any other activities conducted outside.

## Procedures

### 1. Parental Consent

- Parents/carers must provide written consent for sunscreen to be applied to their child. Consent is included as part of the registration form.
- Parents must inform the pre-school if their child has an allergy or sensitivity to a particular cream.

### 2. Provision of Sun protection

- The setting provides a standard, child friendly SPF50 broad spectrum sunscreen.
- Parents/carers can supply their own sun cream, clearly labelled with their child's name if they do not want to use the sun cream provided by the setting. (minimum SPF 30, broad-spectrum).
- Children will be asked to have breaks from the sun and have regular drinks.

### 3. Application Guidelines

- Parents/carers must apply sunscreen (minimum SPF 30, broad-spectrum) before their child attends the pre-school
- On days where the UV or temperature is high staff will check whether sunscreen has been applied with the adult dropping the child off.
- If no sunscreen has been applied before pre-school, staff will apply sunscreen to exposed skin of children.

- Reapplication occurs at mid-day, or more frequently if children are sweating or involved in water play.

#### **4. Staff Responsibilities**

- Staff will also apply sunscreen to themselves to model sun-safe behaviour.

#### **5. Clothing and Shade**

- Parents/carers should ensure children are wearing a hat to protect their head from the sun and wear appropriate clothing for the weather.
- Outdoor areas will include shaded spaces, and children will be encouraged to use these spaces during peak UV time.

#### **6. Sun Safety Education**

- Children will be taught the importance of sun safety through age-appropriate activities, stories, songs, and discussions.
- Topics will include:
  - Why we wear hats and sunscreen
  - The importance of playing in the shade
  - Recognising the sun as both fun and something to be careful of
- Staff will reinforce sun-safe behaviours daily

**Policy written :**                      **3<sup>rd</sup> July 2025 by Sandra Butler**

**Next Review Due:**                **3<sup>rd</sup> May 2026**