



October 2021

## *Sun Protection Policy*

The welfare requirements within the Early Years Foundation Stage state that, wherever possible, there should be access to an outdoor play area, and this is the expected norm for providers. In a provision where outdoor play space cannot be provided, outings should be planned and taken on a daily basis (unless circumstances make this inappropriate, e.g., unsafe weather conditions).

This provision encourages the children to access our well-resourced outdoor play space as much as possible, but during the summer months we are aware of the need to protect the children from the harmful rays of the sun. We have therefore developed this policy.

The provision will provide shade outside for the children so they can access the outdoor space all day. This is in the form of outdoor shelters and tree cover as well as pop-up gazebos to allow instant shade in a different area if required.

We encourage the children to access the outdoor space more in the cooler times of the day when the sun's rays are less powerful, i.e., before 11am and after 3pm. During these times we will organise more outdoor activities and during the lunchtime period will arrange more activities indoors.

The provision requests that all parents provide a hat for their child to protect their head against the sun. (We would recommend legionnaire-style hats as these also provide protection to the child's neck, where the skin is especially vulnerable to being burned). The provision has spare hats that children can borrow if they forget their own. Staff also wear hats when working outside with the children as we feel this sets a good example for them. Parents are also requested to supply a thin T-shirt material top with long sleeves for their child to use if required, as this will offer some additional protection for shoulders and arms.

The provision requests that all children arrive at the nursery already wearing sun-screen during the summer months. Nursery sun cream will regularly be applied throughout the day unless your child has an allergy, in which case a suitable named alternative must be left with the setting.

Water and other drinks are always readily available to the children throughout the year, but in the warmer months we place greater emphasis on the children having a regular fluid intake, as small children can dehydrate very quickly.

We will discuss sun protection with the children at the start of the summer, using age-appropriate language. This will involve storytelling, singing songs and painting pictures. We will write to all parents at the beginning of the summer term each year, reminding them of our sun protection policy and their responsibility to provide us with sunscreen, permission and a hat for their child.

# Lower Covey Ltd

Established 1979

Chapel Lane, Yetminster, Sherborne, Dorset, DT9 6LJ

01935 422215 [info@lowercovey.co.uk](mailto:info@lowercovey.co.uk)



If your child is particularly sensitive to the sun and needs additional protection (e.g. some children need to wear sunglasses as their eyes are sensitive to the light) please let us know and we will work in partnership with you to provide this.

If you have any concerns regarding this policy, please contact the provision.