



Sun Safety Policy

At Lympstone Preschool we recognise the importance of sun protection and want the children and staff to enjoy the sun safely. This policy is in place to explain the steps we take to ensure sun safety. Throughout March – October, we will check the UV index before children go outside to decide if sun protection is needed, even on cloudy days the UV levels maybe high. If the UV is above 3, all children will require sun cream.

Sun Cream

Lympstone Preschool ask that Parents make a donation to the Preschool to cover the cost of sun cream used during the summer months, and on sunnier days. If you would prefer to, please provide a bottle of sun cream for your child. This sun cream must be in date and have a minimum of SPF 30 and four stars UVA rating (in line with NHS recommendations). This bottle should be clearly labelled with the child's name and parents/carers are welcome to leave it at the setting where it will be stored safely.

Parents/carers give written permission for sun cream to be applied to their child on registration form.

We ask parents/carers should apply sun cream at home and send their child into the setting with it on. The UV index will be displayed daily outside the preschool entrance along with a bottle of suncream for any parents who have forgotten to apply suncream before preschool. Each parent / carer will be asked at drop off if the child is wearing suncream and this will be documented on the register daily.

The preschool will use a high factor and AVA rating sun cream (Boots Soltan Kids Once Protect and play 50+ and UVA rating 5 star) will be applied morning and afternoon to all exposed parts of the body at least 20 minutes before sun exposure to allow it to reach its full effectiveness.

Clothing

Lympstone Preschool provide brimmed sun hats for children, if parents/carers prefer to supply their own child's sunhat, preferably with additional neck protection, these are to be clearly named. The children will be encouraged to wear them at all times while exposed to the sun. Staff are also encouraged to wear sun hats to act as good role models for the children.

Parents/carers will be encouraged to provide lightweight clothing during sunnier months, ideally ones that cover shoulders, chests and necks, to decrease the amount of skin exposed to the sun. Closed toe shoes/sandals are encouraged to be worn.

The Preschool will make every effort to remain open, whenever possible, providing it is safe to do so.

The decision to close the Preschool will be made by a management panel and will be announced by 7.30am at the latest via Learning Journals or a message from the preschool mobile in the first instance and then also via preschool/community social media pages/DCC updates.

Shade

We will increase the provision of shaded areas during the summer. Sails will be added to the nature garden and back areas of the Preschool. Children are encouraged to play in shaded areas of the outdoor space.

We will take necessary steps to keep children out of the sun during the hottest part of the day (11 a.m. to 3 p.m.). This may mean changing the routine, so children are not outside during this time frame if the temperatures are extremely high.

Activities during Hot Weather

When temperatures rise, we will ensure that physical activities are done during cooler times of day or avoided altogether. If children are particularly active, we will encourage them to rest periodically and stay hydrated. We will monitor them for signs of heat-related illnesses. Children will have access to water play throughout the day, so please remember to pack spare clothing. Sun cream will also be reapplied after any water activities.

Other safety precautions

On warmer and sunnier days, children will also be encouraged to increase their water intake to stay hydrated. Children will always have access to their water bottles throughout the day, and these will regularly be refilled by staff. Staff will also discuss with children in an age-appropriate manner why we need to drink more water.

All staff are paediatrics first-aid trained and can identify signs of heat-related illnesses, such as heat exhaustion and heatstroke. They will also know how to respond to symptoms and when to seek medical attention.

The Preschool will remain open during the warmer weather; the rooms are air conditioned and these will be in use if there is not enough adequate ventilation through the room. The Preschool will only close if there is a failure on air conditioning units, and the rooms are above a manageable temperature.

Lympstone Preschool are signed up to receive weather-health alerts from the UK Health security Agency (UKHSA) and the Met office.

Parental Preference

We understand that some families may not use sun protection at home, however, we have a duty of care to follow the latest guidelines in our setting, such as those published by the NHS, The EYFS, and the British Skin Foundation. If parents/carers do not wish for their child to use sun cream, they should discuss this with us.

This policy was agreed by Lympstone Preschool Committee, and will be reviewed annually, or sooner if legislation, guidance or operational requirements change.

Reviewed: 01/06/2026