**Sun Care Policy**

At Rainbow Nursery 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:

* 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 their own labelled high factor sun cream with prior written consent gained on your child’s enrolment form for the staff to apply. This enables children to have sun cream suitable for their own individual needs. Staff must be aware of the expiry date and discard sunscreen after this date
* Staff will make day-to-day decisions about the length of time spent outside depending on the strength of the sun. If the UV levels are 3 or above, staff must ensure children have sun cream applied.
* Children will always have sun cream applied before going outside in the hot weather and at frequent intervals during the day
* Children must have a clearly labelled sun hat which will be worn at all times whilst outside in sunny weather.
* 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.
* Children are encouraged to drink cooled water more frequently throughout sunny or warm days and this will be accessible both indoors and out.
* 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.
* Staff will provide opportunities for water play outdoors to allow children to cool down.

**Date Completed: October 2023**

**Review Date: October 2024**

*This policy will be monitored in line with relevant legislation and good practice guidelines*