



Newton International Academy, Barwa

Sun Protection Policy EYFS & Primary

*An International Community of Learners,
Striving for Excellence and Celebrating
Success*



NEWTON
INTERNATIONAL
ACADEMY | **BARWA**

Vision

An international community of learners striving for excellence and celebrating success.

Mission

We aim to provide the highest quality of education possible for students of all abilities. In doing so, we aim to positively encourage each student to achieve academic excellence at their level, enjoy creative diversity, develop critical thinking skills and become lifelong learners and responsible citizens.

To achieve this, we will provide a diverse education in a safe, supportive environment that promotes self-discipline and motivation. We will provide and maintain a calm, trusting and caring atmosphere where teaching and learning are meaningful and developed. We will work in partnership with our staff, students, parents and wider community to achieve our vision.

Newton Group Values



Aim

The aim of this policy is to ensure all students and staff are protected from harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation through consistent sun safety practices and education, particularly during the high-risk months in Qatar. The policy promotes safe outdoor enjoyment while fostering lifelong awareness of sun safety.

Rationale

Excessive exposure to ultraviolet radiation (UVR) from the sun causes sunburn, skin damage and increases the risk of skin cancer. Children are exposed to the sun during the peak UV times in the day, every day at school. Protecting skin during the first 18 years of life can lower the risk of developing skin cancer by up to 78 percent. Just one blistering sunburn can double the risk of developing melanoma later in life...

Why Wear Hats?

Throughout Qatar sun protection is required from April to November inclusive, especially between the hours of 11am and 4pm. Therefore, this policy applies during Terms 1 and 3.

Note: There are also benefits from sun exposure, including Vitamin D absorption, which is important for the development of healthy bones, muscles and teeth. During the winter months, students should be encouraged to actively enjoy the sun.

This policy is adopted so that children attending Newton International Academy are protected from harmful UV radiation from the sun. Everyday our skin is exposed to Ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun. Overexposure to ultraviolet radiation can cause sunburn, skin damage and an increased risk of developing skin cancer. School Sun Hats have a SPF rating of 50+ which means they block 98% of the UV radiation. These hats provide an excellent source of protection from UV for the face, ears, nose and back of the neck. However sunscreen and sunglasses should still be worn with a hat as UV can be reflected back from surfaces, such as sand, water and concrete. The good news is that covering skin with protective clothing, such as hats, wearing sunscreen and avoiding the sun at peak UV times of the day, can prevent sun damage to skin and reduce the risk of developing skin cancer.

Teaching children to play safe in the sun from an early age is part of their education for life. Schools are an appropriate environment for sun safe behaviours to be taught and encouraged.

Wearing a hat and applying sunscreen when we go outside should be part of our daily routine, like brushing our teeth, or wearing a seat belt when we get into a car.

Safeguarding and Student Wellbeing

Sun protection is part of the school's safeguarding and health and safety responsibilities. Staff must actively monitor students during outdoor activities for signs of heat or sun exposure. Duty staff must ensure that children who are not wearing hats are redirected to shaded areas in line with the "No Hat, Play in the Shade" rule. Protecting children from sun damage is essential for their long-term wellbeing and aligns with our commitment to keeping children safe from avoidable harm during school hours.

As part of general sun protection strategies, during Terms 1 and 3, between 11am and 4pm, our school will:

- Require children to wear broad-brimmed hats (min 7.5cms), legionnaire hats (with neck protection) or bucket hats (min 6 cm. brim, deep crown) when they are outside (e.g. playtime, P.E., sport, excursions and activities).
- Implement a "No Hat, Play in the Shade" policy.
- Require children without hats to sit in the shade.
- Work with parents to promote students' use of SPF 30+ broad-spectrum sunscreen.
- Encourage children to wear clothing that protects the skin from the sun (e.g. sleeves and collars) at all times.
- Encourage staff to role model SunSmart behaviour, particularly the use of appropriate hats, within the school grounds and during outdoor school activities.
- Regularly reinforce the SunSmart Policy, for example, through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.
- Inform parents of the Sun Protection Policy at enrolment, especially the use of appropriate hats, clothing, SPF 30+ sunscreen, and encourage parents to practise SunSmart behaviour themselves.

Parental Responsibility and Sunscreen Guidance

Parents are encouraged to teach their children how to apply sunscreen independently. Staff will supervise or assist reapplication only with written permission. The school does not provide sunscreen unless explicitly approved by the school nurse.

EYFS Considerations

EYFS students are especially vulnerable to heat and UV exposure due to their age and sensitivity.

Each EYFS child will be expected to bring a hat to school from the first day of school and this designated hat will stay in school in their "Sunhat box" to use when needed in school or going on a trip.

Staff in EYFS are expected to support children in applying sunscreen (with prior written consent from parents) and ensure all children are wearing appropriate sun hats before outdoor play. Outdoor activities for EYFS pupils will only be scheduled between outside peak UV hours wherever possible. Teachers and teaching assistants must model sun-safe behaviour and ensure sun protection becomes part of children's daily routine.

Monitoring and Review

The implementation of this policy is monitored by the management and Health & Safety team. Duty staff will report any concerns related to sun protection or repeated non-compliance. Policy effectiveness is reviewed annually at the beginning of Term 1 and revised if needed in consultation with the school nurse, leadership team, and parent feedback. Updates will be communicated to staff and families through the school newsletter and staff briefings.

