

ASSISTING PRE-SCHOOLS IN THEIR DUTY OF CARE AND PREVENTING SKIN CANCER THROUGH EDUCATION

Whilst some sun is good for us, over-exposure to UV is a serious health risk and the primary cause of the UK's most common and fastest rising cancer. UV is a known carcinogen, damage is accumulative and irreparable and burning as a child can dramatically increase a persons risk of developing the disease in later life. With many young children spending considerable time at a nursery or pre-school setting, where they are outdoors regularly during peak UV hours (11am - 3pm), it's imperative that settings ensure the children entrusted to their care are protected from UV damage and learn how to enjoy the sun safely.

Developed by national skin cancer charity, Skcin, the Sun Safe Nurseries national accreditation scheme is the UK's most comprehensive FREE resource to assist pre-school settings in; creating a suitable sun safety policy, communicating with parents to gain support, raising awareness within the wider community and introducing sun safety education, to influence behaviour for a positive sun safe future.





To gain their Sun Safe Accreditation, pre-school settings must complete a 3-step process, providing feedback on-line, following completion of each step. Extensive resources have been provided to help settings achieve their accreditation effectively and efficiently, with minimum strain on valuable time and resources.

# 3 STEPS TO GAINING YOUR SUN SAFE NURSERIES ACCREDITATION

"We will make an occasion of this award - thank you. This is definitely an award that was worth doing for the children, parents and staff of the setting. The children have enjoyed all the activities because they are done in a fun way, the staff have enjoyed the experience as well and the parents have been made aware and have supported us all the way. The relevant paperwork is placed in the folder to be given to all new parents and this is definitely a message that will be used regularly - thank you."

#### St Buryan Busy Bees Daycare, Cornwall.

"It was very informative and very easy to follow.
We did the three steps one by one and have now
achieved our goal. We sing the song every day when it
is sunny before we go outside. We read the story about
George regularly. The children think the song is funny
but has a clear message and the children have told
their parents that they must never go out in the sun
without their hat and suncream on!"

#### Raunds Day Nursery, Northamptonshire

"The children now tell us the words of the story before we have said them and the slip slop slap song is now part of our getting ready to go in the sun routine. Well presented and easy to follow steps - keep up the good work and thank you for the activities and resources". Honeys Nursery Bumbles Pre School, Kent

## STEP ONE: SUNSCREEN, SUN HATS AND ROLE MODELS

Step one advises settings on appropriate sun protection measures and what advice to provide staff, whilst reinforcing the importance of acting as appropriate role models. A customisable letter and information that is available to download via the site helps settings provide and communicate important sun safety information and policy criteria to gain vital support from parents.

## STEP TWO: SHADE

Step two advises settings to provide a shaded area for use during appropriate outdoor activities. If a setting does not already provide shade, they must pledge to investigate / implement a suitable solution.

## STEP THREE: TEACHING RESOURCES AND ACTIVITIES

A variety of fun and engaging resources available via the website including; the book and animated story of George the Sun Safe Superstar, the Slip Slop Slap Song and a range of educational material, introduces and reinforces key sun safe messaging to help influence behaviour for a positive sun safe future.

## **GAINING ACCREDITATION**

Upon completion, settings are awarded their Sun Safe Accreditation Certificate. The accreditation is valid for one year, with a renewal process in place to review their policy, reinforce support with parents, advise newcomers and increase knowledge of sun safety through education.



For more information and to register to take part visit: sunsafenurseries.co.uk

Together we can make a difference and save lives.

