

# Sun Protection Policy



*Learning together in a changing world, creating success for all.*

## **Trinity Fields is a Rights Respecting School, a Healthy School, Investors in Families School, an ECO School, a MOVE school and an Inclusion Quality Mark (IQM) Flagship School.**

This policy should be read in conjunction with our pupil friendly and adult version of our “**Shared Values and Aims**”.

### **School context**

Trinity Fields is a **Rights Respecting School**; we are committed to the principles and values of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) across all areas of our work. We are a school where pupils are at the heart of everything we do. We successfully achieved UNICEF’s “Rights Respecting School Award” in **January 2017** and we have a well-established record of developing pupil engagement at all levels.

Refer to pupil friendly “**Pupil Participation**” policy and our whole school “**Pupil Participation**” policy for further details.

We are a **Healthy School**; we take responsibility for maintaining and promoting the health and wellbeing of the Trinity Fields team (pupils, parents/carers, staff, governors etc.). This includes teaching pupils about how to lead healthy lives by enabling them and staff to take control over aspects of the school environment that influence their health and wellbeing. We achieved the Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes National Quality Award in **March 2018, with re-accreditation in December 2020**.

Refer to “**Health and Well-being for Pupils**” policy and our whole school “**Health and Well-being**” policy for further details.

We are an **Investors in Families School**. We are committed to developing active and effective relationships with parents/carers and families and recognise the value of close partnership working to improve outcomes for our pupils. We were the first Special School in Wales to achieve the Investors in Families Quality Mark, and regularly share our excellent practices with other settings.

We demonstrate our commitment to the Rights to Action agenda and value and support the important role that families play in the education of their child. We strive to promote social inclusion and a sense of wellbeing for families through positive participation in their child’s education.

During the re-accreditation process (2019), the school’s work was judged to be of a very high quality. Family and Community Engagement are fully embedded and it was evident that the school works hard on its journey towards excellence. The assessor was very pleased to award the school the **Diamond Standard**.

We have demonstrated through a national annual assessment that we have the capacity to play a strong leadership role in developing inclusion best practice across a network of schools; as well as being committed to extending those networks and develop classroom-based research.

Refer to “**Inclusion**” policy and to **IQM assessment reports** for further details.

In **summer 2022** we gained our **Platinum ECO Schools Award**; the Eco-Schools programme is designed to be pupil-led and looks at the impact of our actions on the environment.

Our sustained journey towards attaining the Platinum Award showcases pupils’ ideas and helps to inspire others to make the right environmental choices.

More recently (2019), the school started its journey towards becoming a **MOVE school**; successfully accredited at Silver level in **December 2021**. The MOVE Programme is an activity-based practice that enables children and young people with physical disabilities to sit, stand, walk, and transition as independently as possible.

**Our overarching philosophy is summarised in the following statement:**

**“We believe that everyone at Trinity Fields is entitled to have access to the very best learning experiences. These will be provided within a safe, caring and stimulating environment that will enable all learners to achieve their full potential through learning opportunities that meet their individual needs”.**

## **Education in Wales: Our National Mission**

Our work with pupils and their families will be developed building upon Wales’ National Mission. This national mission is ambitious, innovative and confident ensuring that we all take responsibility for all of our pupils to have equal opportunities to reach the highest possible standards.

Trinity Fields will continue to develop as a learning organisation to ensure it has the capacity to adapt to and explore a range of new approaches which results in improved outcomes and well-being for all of our pupils.

In order to realise our shared vision and approaches in delivering Wales’ transformational curriculum that will enable all of the pupils at Trinity Fields to make the progress commensurate with their individual needs we are committed to the 4 key enabling objectives, detailed in “**Education in Wales: Our national mission (2017)**”. These are:

- **Developing a high-quality education profession.**
- **Inspirational leaders working collaboratively to raise standards.**
- **Strong and inclusive schools committed to excellent, equity and well-being.**
- **Robust assessment, evaluation and accountability arrangements supporting a self-improving system.**

## **Context**

Qualified for Life (2014) provides further endorsement of our commitment to being a Rights Respecting School by stating:

“learners are the heart of all that we do” and further “every child and young person benefits from personalised learning”.

Successful Futures (2015) also states that:

“Each child and young person in Wales should be able to benefit from curriculum and assessment arrangements that will best meet their present needs and equip them for their future lives. Our children and young people only have a relatively short time at school. We must use that time judiciously and productively to help each one of them to grow as a capable, healthy, well-rounded individual who can thrive in the face of unknown future challenges”.

At Trinity Fields School and Resource Centre we acknowledge the importance of sun protection and want staff and pupils to enjoy the sun safely.

### **Aims of policy**

The key aims of this policy are to teach pupils, staff and parents/carers about effective sun protection in each of the 3 main areas:

1. **PROTECTION:** providing an environment that enables pupils and staff to stay safe in the sun.
2. **EDUCATION:** learning about sun safety to increase knowledge and influence behaviour.
3. **COLLABORATION:** working with parents/carers, school staff and the wider community to reinforce awareness about sun safety.

### **How we will keep our pupils safe in the sun**

1. Staff will provide information to pupils, wherever appropriate about the dangers of exposure to the sun.
2. Parents and carers will be sent a letter explaining what the school is doing about sun protection and how they can help at the beginning of the summer term.
3. When the sun is strong staff will ensure pupils wear sun protection cream before they go out to play at breaktimes/lunchtimes or participate in outdoor lessons.
4. Wherever possible, pupils will be encouraged and supported to independently apply sun cream. Parents/carers will be asked to sign consent for staff to support pupils' use of sun cream or apply directly where pupils are unable to do this for themselves. A copy of the letter will be found in **Appendix 1**.
5. Pupils will always be encouraged to wear sun hats if exposed to the sun for any prolonged period of time. Parents/carers will be asked to send in appropriate clothing, hats and sun cream for their child's use.

6. Pupils will be encouraged to play in the shade. Appropriate shaded areas are available in all play areas. Where pupils insist on playing in the sun they will remain outside for reduced periods of time.
7. In the summer months we will aim to schedule outside activities, school trips and PE lessons before 11.00 am wherever possible. If this is unavoidable we will ensure hats, clothing and sun screen are all worn to prevent sunburn.
8. The school leadership team will audit our arrangements as necessary.

### **Policy review**

Responsibility for the success of our work-life balance strategy lies with the Governing Body and with each employee. In light of the ongoing and rapid developments within Welsh education this policy will be reviewed on a regular basis to ensure that it reflects current legislation and best practice.

<b>Signed</b>		<b>Headteacher</b>
<b>Signed</b>		<b>Chair of Governors</b>
<b>This policy will be reviewed in line with the school's policy review cycle,.</b>		

As a Rights Respecting School we are committed to embedding the principles and values of the United Nation Conventions for the Rights of the Child (UNCRC).

This policy enables our pupils to access and enjoy the following articles of the convention:

**Article 12:** Every child has the right to be heard.

**Article 28:** Every child has the right to an education.

**Article 29:** Education must develop every child's personality, talents and abilities to the full.

**Article 42:** Every child has the right to know their rights.

## Appendix 1: letter to be sent to parents/carers

Dear Parents/Carers,

Now the summer term has started, I wanted to write and tell you about our **sun protection policy**. We have developed this with the help of parents/carers, teachers and pupils to ensure that we can all enjoy the sun safely over the coming months.

The sun's rays are particularly strong over the summer and they can damage children's skin. This may not seem like a problem right now, but it can lead to health issues in later life. Your child's health and well-being are very important to us, which is why we have decided to:

- Increase the amount of school time spent learning about sun protection.
- Provide shade areas in the playgrounds.
- Encourage pupils to wear hats and t-shirts when outside.
- Encourage pupils to use at least SPF 15 sunscreen in summer months.

I have also included a Sun Smart information card which will explain how to keep your child safe from the sun at home. Your support is very important if our new policies are going to work. You can help by:

- Talking to your child about the importance of sun protection at home.
- Sending your child to school with a wide-brimmed hat.
- Signing the slip on your child's Health care plan to ensure staff can support your child apply sun cream.
- Send in a high factor sun cream.

Together I hope we can have a very happy and safe term, enjoying the sun safely.

Many thanks for your continuing support,

**Ian Elliott MBE**  
**Executive Headteacher**