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Dear Parents/Guardians

Hardwick Primary School has a duty of care for your child and as such we have a Sun Safe policy to ensure the health and wellbeing of your child/children during school hours. This is a voluntary undertaking by the school following an invitation from the Sun Safe Schools (national accreditation scheme), which has been developed by national skin cancer charity 'Skcin', to encourage the necessary culture change regarding attitudes towards sun safety required to combat the soaring rates of skin cancer in the UK.

Skin cancer is almost entirely preventable and simple steps can be undertaken to ensure that your child’s skin is protected from the sun’s harmful rays. As such, we will be utilising the Sun Safe Schools accreditation scheme to teach all children the importance of sun safety with the fun and engaging teaching resources supplied to us.

We encourage parents to send their child to school with an appropriate sun hat (named) ideally to remain at school at all times during the months **April through to the end of September** to help protect them from over exposure to UV during outdoor activities and break times. Sun hats should be either legionnaire or broad brimmed, bucket style hats that shade the face, neck and ears. Sun hats will be worn during outdoor play/activities when UV levels are 3 or above.

**We will be providing FREE sunscreen for all pupils**. Our wall mounted sun stations with dispensers containing SPF 30, 5 star UVA, broad spectrum sunscreen will be available for use by all pupils from **24th April.** Children will apply the sunscreen themselves before extended periods of time outdoors such as lunch breaks when UV penetration is at its peak.

The sunscreen provided is of a high quality and any reactions are unlikely. However, if you are concerned about sensitive skin/skin allergies or your child has had adverse reactions to sunscreen in the past, it is your responsibility to test the product on your child’s skin before they start using it in April. If you would like to test the product there will be a dispenser available for this purpose at reception. The school cannot be held responsible for any adverse reaction it may cause.

As part of our commitment to providing a sun safe environment we also recognise that role models have a key part to play in influencing children’s behaviour. It is therefore important that both teachers and parents do their best to practice and reinforce sun safety.

To find out more about the Colin Bloomfield Melanoma Appeal, the Sun Safe Schools Accreditation Scheme and the charity ‘Skcin’, or for further information about sun safety and skin cancer please visit [www.skcin.org](http://www.skcin.org)

**If you DO NOT want your child to use the sunscreen provided by school then please complete and return the opt out slip below before Friday 7th April 2017.**

Yours Sincerely

Mrs R Sandhu

Head of School

TO: Class Teacher

Child’s Name: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Class: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

I DO NOT want my child to use the free sunscreen provided in school.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Parent/Guardian Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_