



Risk Assessment for School During period of Heatwave

References:

[Looking after children and those in early years settings during heatwaves: for teachers and professionals](#) (DfE 13.05.2022)

<https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/dehydration/>

No	Hazard	People at risk	Control Measure	Person(s) Responsible
General				
1.	Health Risks from Heat	All	<p>All staff to be able to recognise the symptoms of Heat Stress, Heat Exhaustion and Heatstroke.</p> <p>Senior Leaders tracking weather forecasts and ensuring the school community is aware of the expected temperatures, and what the school is doing in response to these.</p> <p>Adaptation of in-school and extra-curricular activity.</p>	Staff email 15 th July
2.	Temperatures in Classrooms	All	<p>Site Manager and class staff to monitor temperatures daily.</p> <p>Ensure CO₂/ temperature monitor is not in direct sunlight nor amongst computer equipment that may affect the temperature.</p> <p>Site Manager to open windows early in the morning. If air outside is hotter than inside, teachers will need to close windows so that they are only open a small amount. This will support in keeping hot air out.</p> <p>Blinds to be kept drawn throughout the day; they are vertical blinds that allow the passage of air flow.</p> <p>All electronic devices to be off when not in use e.g. board, PC.</p> <p>Lights to remain off, where this poses no health and safety risk.</p>	Site Manager School Staff
3.	Pupils and adults at greater risk	All	<p>Identification of staff and pupils who have an existing condition that may put them at extra risk from the extreme heat i.e. cardiac and respiratory conditions. Ask staff and parents to contact the school / school leaders to discuss strategies to consider.</p>	Senior Leaders and Class staff and Anne Morgan

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4.	Promotion of staying healthy in the sun / heat	All	<p>Communicating to all staff and children the need to stay safe in the sun, and how to achieve this.</p> <p>Use of newsletter, text / email messaging to remind parents to apply sunscreen to children, provide fresh water each day and provide a sun hat.</p> <p>School staff to ensure pupils are able to drink water freely throughout the day, and encouraged to do so.</p>	School Staff
5.	Physical activity	Pupils	<p>No PE to take place during extreme heat (30°+)</p> <p>Children to be encouraged to sit in shaded areas during break and playtimes; no sports equipment and no running.</p>	School Staff
Outdoor Areas				
7.	Use of playgrounds – limited shade	All	<p>Staff to advise children to sit in shade in the playground.</p> <p>No running / use of equipment (including climbing equipment that is metal (in nursery playground or tunnel under bridge) and therefore could be very hot).</p> <p>Limit time spent outside: encourage classes to have lessons and break times through the morning when it is generally cooler.</p>	School Staff
8.	Sun burn	All	<p>Communicate the need for a high SPF sunscreen and sun hats.</p> <p>Limit time in sun. When children are outside, staff to ensure there is sufficient shade for all.</p>	School Staff
9.	Overheating	All	<p>Amendment to school uniform policy during period of extreme heat:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Navy shorts • White t-shirt • Plimsolls or trainers <p>N.B shoulders must be covered. Loose fitting clothing should be promoted.</p> <p>Staff to be encouraged to wear cool, loose-fitting clothing.</p>	Senior Leaders and School Staff

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10.	Dehydration	All	<p>Communicate to all parents and carers that their children MUST bring in a full water bottle each day.</p> <p>All adults to be encouraged to drink water regularly throughout the day.</p> <p>All pupils to be encouraged / reminded to drink water throughout the day.</p> <p>Classes to have regular opportunities to fill up their water bottles, for example from the water cooler in the staff room.</p> <p>Staff to ensure that all children are drinking; if they do not have their water bottle, water must be made freely available.</p>	
Indoor Areas				
11.	Classroom environments becoming too hot	All	<p>Classes encouraged to have lessons outside, in the shade.</p> <p>Active learning to be kept to a minimum in class.</p>	School Staff
12.	Playtimes are at hottest times of the day	All	<p>Give flexibility to class staff to spend as much of the morning outside as possible, to take advantage of cooler temperatures and shade.</p> <p>Limit time outside during the middle of the day – inside playtimes can include watching a film or documentary.</p> <p>Middle hall curtains and blinds kept closed to keep the room as cool as possible.</p>	School Staff

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13.	Access to drinking water	All	Check water fountains daily, to ensure they are all functioning.	Site Manager School Staff
Emergency Action				
14.	Heat Stress, Heat Exhaustion and Heatstroke	All	<p style="text-align: center;">ACTIONS TO PROTECT CHILDREN / ADULTS SUFFERING FROM HEAT ILLNESS</p> <p>The following steps to reduce body temperature should be taken immediately:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Move the child to as cool a room as possible and encourage them to drink cool water (such as water from a cold tap). 2. Cool the child as rapidly as possible, using whatever methods you can. For example, sponge or spray the child with cool (25 to 30°C) water – if available, place cold packs around the neck and armpits, or wrap the child in a cool, wet sheet and assist cooling with a fan. 3. Dial 999 to request an ambulance if the person doesn't respond to the above treatment within 30 minutes. <p>If a child / adult loses consciousness, or has a fit, place the child in the recovery position, call 999 immediately and follow the steps above until medical assistance arrives.</p>	
20.	Dehydration	All	<p>First-aider to monitor individual: their symptoms and how much water they are taking on.</p> <p>If symptoms persist, a phone call home or to the emergency services may be required.</p>	School Staff