



Freedom 7 Elementary Shade Policy

Purpose:

To ensure the health and safety of all students and staff by reducing exposure to harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation during school hours.

Policy Statement:

Freedom 7 recognizes the risks associated with excessive sun exposure and is committed to providing a safe and sun-smart environment. This policy supports sun protection practices through education, scheduling, and physical infrastructure.

1. Sun-Safe Environment

Shade Structures: The school will provide shaded areas in outdoor play zones, eating areas, and assembly locations. Trees, shade sails, or structures will be used where feasible.

Classroom Design: Teachers will encourage breaks and outdoor activities to be conducted in shaded areas whenever possible.

Recess and PE Times: When possible, outdoor activities will be scheduled outside of peak UV radiation hours (typically 10 a.m. to 2 p.m.) unless the shaded pavilion is available..

2. Student Protection Guidelines

Clothing: Students are encouraged to wear sun-protective clothing such as hats with brims, long or short sleeves, black or white leggings, and sunglasses during outdoor activities.

Sunscreen Use:

Parents/guardians are encouraged to apply sunscreen before school or students may bring and apply their own sunscreen.

Staff may supervise but not apply sunscreen.

Hats: Wide-brimmed or bucket hats are encouraged. Baseball caps are permitted but do not protect the ears and neck as effectively.



Freedom 7 Elementary Shade Policy Cont.

3. Staff Responsibilities

Model sun-safe behavior (e.g., wearing hats, sunglasses, use of umbrellas, and sunscreen when supervising outdoors).

Encourage and remind students to use sun protection practices.

Plan outdoor activities with sun exposure in mind.

4. Family and Community Engagement

Parents will be informed of this policy at the start of the school year and through newsletters or school websites.

Families will be encouraged to support sun safety by providing appropriate hats, clothing, and sunscreen.

5. Education

Students will receive annual education about sun safety as part of the physical education, health or science curriculum.

Posters and reminders about sun safety will be displayed around the school.

6. Review and Monitoring

This policy will be reviewed every two years or as regulations change. Feedback from staff and families will be considered in updates.

Adopted: May 2025

Next Review Date: May 2026