

Lesley Griffiths AC / AM
Y Gweinidog Iechyd a Gwasanaethau Cymdeithasol
Minister for Health and Social Services



Llywodraeth Cymru
Welsh Government

Eich cyf/Your ref P-04-337
Ein cyf/Our ref LG/06663/11

William Powell AM
Chair, Petitions Committee

William.powell@wales.gov.uk

24th October 2011

Dear Bill,

Petition P-04-337 Tenovus: Free sunscreen

I am replying to your letter of 7 October in relation to the above petition.

As a Government, we are committed to promoting the need to adopt sun protection behaviours. For children we emphasise it is important to cover up and wear suitable clothing whilst outside, including wide brimmed hats and clothing which offers suitable protection from the sun. They should also be encouraged to spend time in the shade between 11am and 3pm, the hottest time of day, and wear at least a factor 15 sunscreen on exposed areas of skin when shade and protective clothing are not practical.

This broader approach has been adopted as part of the Welsh Network of Healthy School Schemes, of which 99% of schools in Wales are now part of. As schools progress through the scheme they are expected to put in place a whole-school approach to a range of health issues. As part of this work the local healthy school co-ordinator would direct the school to guidance on sun safety policy provided by the SunSmart campaign.

This guidance advises schools to develop their own policy taking account of the individual needs of the school and its pupils and to consult with the whole school community including parents, school governors, Healthy School practitioners, school nurses, Health & Safety co-ordinators and pupils when looking to develop the sun protection policy. The guidelines are intended to outline ways in which the community can work towards minimising harmful effects from over exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays. It advises schools to develop their own policy.

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Wedi'i argraffu ar bapur wedi'i ailgylchu (100%)

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I believe this broader approach will be more effective in protecting our children from over exposure to sun.

Regards
Lesley

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