



TOPICAL PROTECTANT POLICY

DVIS fully embraces the value of outdoor classroom experiences and encourages our teachers to make use of the Blue Heron Nature Preserve, as well as our own outdoor spaces as often as possible. The educational benefits of this type of instruction are broad-ranging and have a lasting impact on students.

DVIS is aware, too, that this type of instruction is not without its risks. One concern is **UV ray exposure**. A second concern is the increased presence of insects on our campus in comparison with other school environments due to the proximity to natural water habitats. DVIS follows all legally permissible requirements regarding pest control at both facilities (inside and out) but is especially limited at the 2K Main Campus because it is located on a Natural Wildlife Refuge. Hazard levels related to insect exposure have risen with the reemergence and expansion of insect-borne diseases in the Southeastern United States.

In an effort to protect our students, DVIS has historically permitted both the use of and required staff to administer topical protectants (i.e. a protective agent applied directly to the skin, such as sunscreen and/or insect repellent) to each child.

GENERAL TOPICAL PROTECTION POLICIES

- The Topical Protection Authorization form is required for all students. Authorizing the application of Insect Repellent is mandatory for all students while authorizing the application of sunscreen is optional.
- Requests for special consideration or exemption from any part of this policy must be submitted in writing with any accompanying medical documentation to the Director of the school.

The regulations regarding topical protectants shall be as follows:

SUNSCREEN

- Sunscreen is optional.
- Students who require sunscreen should have it applied before arriving at school.
- If a child requires further application(s):
 - parent/guardian must provide the sunscreen with written instructions directly to their teacher(s). Email is preferable.
 - All containers must be labeled in a permanent fashion with the student's first and last name. Siblings in the same classroom can share containers.
 - Only the protectant provided will be applied to the student.
 - Sunscreen and accompanying instructions should be kept in a clear zip lock bag inside the child's backpack.

INSECT REPELLENT

- "Bugspray"/Insect Repellent is mandatory for all students.
- Families should apply repellent before arriving at school.
- Teachers will re-apply repellent before going outside during mosquito season.
- Parents/guardians must provide a **DEET FREE** spray directly to the teacher for each of their children.
 - Insect repellent is a shared classroom supply (i.e. teachers will use one bottle for all children until that bottle is used up then use the next).
 - Children who require spray containing DEET, or another special type of insect repellent must provide a doctor's note and label the spray with their child's first and last name.
 - Only spray form and bands are accepted. No lotions, foams, or other types.
- Students who participate in After-School activities are required to bring a second insect repellent to be kept in their after-school room.