

Keeping safe during hot weather



Did you know..

- Severe heat can be dangerous and even prove fatal in some cases.
- Some people are more vulnerable to hot weather than others.
- Some of the factors that increase people's risk include but are not limited to:
 - age
 - chronic or severe illness
 - some medications
 - those who are unable to adapt their behaviour to keep cool.

Be Prepared

Sign up to the new Heat Health Alerts which can tell you the risk to health of the heat for your area [Heat Health Alert Service](#) Useful information can also be found here: [Beat the heat-staying safe in hot weather](#)

Stay cool

Avoid direct sunlight during the hottest times of the day from 11am – 3pm

Stay hydrated

Provide and encourage frequent drinks to stay hydrated, make sure they are easy to access all day. Fans can cause dehydration, please ensure additional drinks are available.

Staying safe outside

Dress in loose-fitting, light-coloured clothing that covers as much of the body as possible.

Hats should be worn that shade the face, neck, and ears.

Apply sunscreen before going outdoors and reapply every 2 hours.

Stay in the shade as much as possible.

Staying safe indoors

Monitor and record indoor temperatures Ensure thermostats are working in their house/your organisation so you can monitor temperatures.

Keep curtains closed especially in rooms when the sunlight comes through.

Be aware plastic pads and mattresses can be particularly hot during a heatwave.

Create cool rooms/cool areas 26°C or below.

Once the temperature outside has dropped lower than the temperature inside, open the windows - this may not be until very late at night or the early hours of the morning.

Turn off unnecessary electrical equipment and lighting.

Fans - it is important that fans are cleaned regularly. Do not aim directly at the body and keep a good distance away.

Discuss cooler food options with high water content such as fruit and salads with your loved one or at-risk person.

Remember:

- ✓ The best way to enjoy the sun safely and protect your skin is to use shade, clothing, and sunscreen
- ✓ Shade and clothing are better than sunscreen at protecting your skin.
- ✓ Sunscreen shouldn't be used to spend longer in the sun. But they can be useful for protecting the parts of the body not covered by clothing or shade.

If you suspect someone has heat stroke dial 999 [Heat exhaustion and heatstroke - NHS \(www.nhs.uk\)](#)