



SUNSMART POLICY

This policy applies to all school events on and off-site.

This Policy is for Terms 1, 2 and 4, if the UV rating is below 3 students will not be required to wear hats or sunscreen.

RATIONALE

A balance of ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposure is important for health. Too much of the sun's UV radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Sun exposure in childhood and adolescence is a major factor in determining future skin cancer risk.

OBJECTIVES

This SunSmart Policy has been developed to:

- Encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures whenever UV Index levels reach 3 and above.
- Work towards a safe school environment that provides shade for students, staff and the school community at appropriate times.
- Assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection.
- Ensure that families and new staff are informed of the school's SunSmart policy.

Staff are encouraged to access the SunSmart UV Alert at www.cancersa.org.au/sunsmart to find out daily local sun protection times to assist with the implementation of this policy.

CLOTHING

Sun protective clothing is included in the school uniform/ dress code and sports uniform. The clothing is cool, loose fitting and made of closely woven fabric. It includes shirts with collars, longer-style dresses and shorts and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.

SUNSCREEN

The school supplies SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for staff and student's use. Sunscreen is applied at least twenty minutes before going outdoors (where possible) and reapplied every two hours if outdoors for an extended period.

Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors and reapply as required e.g. reminder notices, on the TV.

HATS

All students and staff are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears Broad Brimmed Hats are the best Protection.

SHADE

A shade audit is conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade. The school governing council makes sure there is a sufficient number of shelters and trees providing shade in the school grounds, particularly in areas where students congregate. The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all other outdoor activities. In consultation with the school governing council, shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds. Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside. Students who do not have appropriate hats or clothing are asked to remain in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

STAFF WHS AND ROLE MODELLING

As part of WHS UV risk controls when the UV is 3 and above staff are required to:

- wear sun protective hats, clothing and sunglasses when outside.
- apply SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen.
- seek shade whenever possible.

Families and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures, when participating in and attending outdoor school activities.

CURRICULUM

Programs on skin cancer prevention, sun protection and vitamin D are included in the curriculum where appropriate.

SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community.

POLICY REVIEW

The school council and staff regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of the SunSmart policy and revise the policy when required.

REVIEW

December 2021