



Sun Protection Policy

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

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 during childhood and adolescence is a major factor in determining future skin cancer risk. Too little UV radiation from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones and muscles, and for general health. Sensible sun protection when UV is 3 and above does not put people at risk of vitamin D deficiency.

Objectives

- This sun protection policy has been developed to: 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 families and new staff are informed of the school's sun protection 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.

Sunscreen

- Students must provide their own SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen

Hats

All students and staff are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears e.g. legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats, whenever they are outside. Baseball or peak caps are not acceptable.

Shade

- A shade audit is conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade.
- The school council ensures there is a sufficient number of shelters and trees providing shade in the school grounds, particularly in areas where students congregate e.g. canteen, outdoor lesson areas and popular play areas.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all other outdoor activities.
- In consultation with the school council, shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds.
- Care is taken during the peak UV radiation times, and outdoor activities are scheduled outside of these times or in the shade where possible. Sports days and other outdoor events to be held during term two or earlier in the day where practical.
- Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.
- Students who do not have appropriate hats or clothing are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

Staff WHS and role modelling

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

Curriculum

- Programs on skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum.



Communication and review

Outline:

- This policy is available on our school website and from the front office
- This policy has been discussed with our staff, governing council members and primary students
- This policy will be reviewed in line with the Department for Education's requirements
- Policy endorsed by Governing Council Term 1 **2023**
- This Policy will be due for review Term 3 **2023**