



SUNSMART POLICY

PURPOSE:

- Ensure all students and staff have some UV exposure for vitamin D.
- Ensure all students and staff are well protected from too much UV exposure by using a combination of sun protection measures whenever UV levels reach 3 and above.
- Ensure the outdoor environment is sun safe and provides shade for students and staff.
- Ensure students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills with particular emphasis during Term 1 and 4.
- Support duty of care requirements

PROCEDURES:

- Staff and students are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times.
- A combination of sun protection measures are used for all outdoor activities from **September to the end of April** and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above.

Healthy physical environment

1. Seek shade

- A shade audit is conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade.
- The school council makes sure there is a sufficient number of shelters and trees providing shade in the school grounds particularly in areas where students congregate e.g. lunch, canteen, outdoor lesson areas and popular play areas.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning all other outdoor activities and excursions.
- In consultation with the school 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 outdoor clothing are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

Healthy social environment

2. Slip on sun protective clothing

3. Slap on a hat

4. Slop on sunscreen

- Students must provide their own SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen.
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies).

5. Slide on sunglasses [if practical]

Learning and Skills

- Programs on skin cancer prevention and vitamin D are included in the curriculum for all year levels.
- SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school homepage, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and on student enrolment.

MONITORING AND REVIEW:

- The school council and staff regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of the SunSmart policy (at least once every three years) and revise the policy when required by completing a policy review and membership renewal with SunSmart at sunsmart.com.au.
- SunSmart policy updates and requirements will be made available to staff, families and visitors.

This policy was ratified by School Council: 2013

Next policy review: 2017

Relevant documents / links

- The Compact: Roles and Responsibilities in Victorian government school education: Principle 3 (2012)
- DEECD School Policy & Advisory Guide (SPAG) Sun & UV protection (2011)
- DEECD Health, Safety & Workcover
- Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) Occupational Health & Safety Guidelines
- Independent Schools Victoria (ISV) Compliance Framework
- Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF)
- Building Quality Standards Handbook (BQSH): Section 8.5.5 Shade Areas (Oct 2011)
- Education and Training Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into Dress Codes and School Uniforms in Victorian Schools -Government Response
- Safe Work Australia: Guidance Note for the Protection of Workers from the Ultraviolet Radiation in Sunlight (2008)