



Tanunda Primary School & Disability Unit Sun Smart Policy

Rationale

Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun. Much of the damage occurs during childhood and adolescence. Research suggests that sun exposure and sunburn is a contributor to skin cancer and other forms of skin damage such as wrinkles, sunspots, blemishes and premature aging. Most skin damage and skin cancer is, therefore, preventable. Schools are ideally placed to help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and the number of related deaths by encouraging all members of the school community to use effective skin protection measures.

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

The school's sun protection policy is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community including staff, volunteers and families through newsletters and the school website.

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

Aims

The aims of the Tanunda Primary School Sun Smart Policy are to promote among students, staff and parents:

- positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- lifestyle practices which can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and the number of related deaths.
- personal responsibility for and decision making about skin protection.
- awareness of the need for environmental changes in schools to reduce the level of exposure to the sun.

Implementation (all year)

UV Rating Index: Student Leaders will be trained to check the UV rating each day using the Sun Smart app and communicate the rating across the school so staff and students know when the UV is forecast to be 3 or greater it will be a HAT DAY.

Clothing

Wear appropriate clothing which protects the skin (keep a hat at school at all times). Students will be expected to wear dress code clothing which cover as much skin as is practicable e.g. polo shirts with collars and sleeves, and longer style shorts and skirts.

Hats

Students and staff will be expected to wear a broad brimmed or approved bucket hat whenever involved in outside school activities when the UV rating is 3 and above.



Shade & Peak UV Times

Students not wearing a hat at play will be asked to move to the verandas around the courtyard area of the school when the UV is 3 or higher.

Care will be taken during the peak UV radiation times and outdoor activities will be scheduled outside of these times, where possible.

When the UV is 3 and above and as part of the school hot weather policy the following measures are included:

- Eat lunch inside
- Eat lunch in a shaded area
- Outdoor assemblies are held earlier/ indoors/ in shade
- PE/ outdoor classes held indoors/ in shade
- Shade considered when planning outdoor activities
- Play in shaded areas is encouraged
- Indoor play allowed

A combination of sun protection measures will be considered when planning outdoor activities such as excursions and water-based activities.

Sunscreen

SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is supplied by the school for students and staff use. Alternatively, families and staff are asked to supply their own sunscreen, if a particular type is required.

Parents are encouraged to apply SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen to their children before school.

When the UV is 3 and above students will be encouraged to reapply sunscreen at school.

Curriculum

Reinforcing the Sun Smart message in classroom activities and in general school procedures are important strategies in the adoption of the skin protection behaviours.

Skin cancer prevention will be included in classroom learning.

Staff will be required and parents encouraged to role model appropriate Sun Smart strategies when involved in outdoor school activities.

Information about the school's Sun Smart Policy will be provided to all new staff, students and families.

Policy updated: Term 1 2024 Ratified by Governing Council: 20/03/24 Review: Term 1 2027
