



SunSmart and Sun Safety Policy

Rationale

This policy exists to ensure the school makes every effort to protect all students and staff from over exposure to UV and dehydration.

Aim

- Ensure all students and staff are well protected from too much UV exposure by using a combination of sun protection measures during the daily local sun protection times (issued whenever UV levels are three and above).
- Ensure all students and staff have some UV exposure for vitamin D.
- Ensure the outdoor environment is sun safe and provides shade for students and staff.
- Ensure students understand the importance of hydration and are encouraged keep hydrated, particularly on days of extreme heat.
- Ensure students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection and rehydration skills to help them be responsible for their own sun protection.
- Support duty of care requirements.

Sun protection is used **during the daily sun protection times from September to the end of April** and NOT just during terms one and four. Only using sun protection during these terms means children and staff are not protected from UV when they need to be.

Implementation

SEEK SHADE

- The availability of shade is considered when planning all outdoor activities.
- 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
- Modifications are made to the location of lessons on days of extreme heat (e.g. PE in an air conditioned classroom).
- When the temperature is 35 degrees or over, students do not take part in any outdoor activities. This includes at recess and lunchtime.

SLIP ON SUN PROTECTIVE COLTHING

- Refer to [Uniform Policy](#)
- All students are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears (legionnaire, broad-brimmed or bucket hat), whenever they are outside. Peak caps and visors are not considered a suitable alternative. Students without appropriate clothing/hat are required to be in the shade (e.g. shelter shed).
- At swimming events, students are required to wear t-shirts and hats when they are not in the swimming pool.



SLOP ON SUNSCREEN (WHENEVER UV LEVELS ARE THREE OR ABOVE)

- The school supplies SPF50 (or higher) broad- spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for staff and students' use. Students may choose to bring their own SPF50.
- Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes (where possible) before recess and lunchtime.
- Sunscreen is taken on school excursions and to sports events and reapplied every two hours.
- Age-appropriate strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices, sunscreen monitors)

SLIDE ON SUNGLASSES (IF PRACTICAL)

- Where practical students are encouraged to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

REHYDRATION

- On hot days, students are reminded to drink as much water as possible to guard against dehydration.
- Students to have access to water at all excursions and sports events.

ENGAGING CHILDREN, EDUCATORS, STAFF AND FAMILY

SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school website / intranet, staff and parent meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and on student enrolment / new staff orientation.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of Fairfield Primary School's three-year review cycle in February 2020.

References

- DEAT [The Compact: Roles and Responsibilities in Victorian government school education](#): Principle 3 (2012)
- DEAT School Policy & Advisory Guide (SPAG) [Sun & UV protection](#) (2011)
- DEAT [OHSMS Implementation Guide](#) (2009)
- DEAT [Building Quality Standards Handbook](#) (BQSH): Section 8.5.5 Shade Areas (Oct 2011)
- DEAT [Guidelines for School Playgrounds](#) –Playground safety management: Section 3.2.5 (2012)
- DEAT [Outdoor activities](#)
- Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) [Occupational Health & Safety Checklist](#)
- Independent Schools Victoria (ISV) Compliance Framework: [Sun Protection](#) / [Health & safety](#)
- [Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework](#) (VEYLDF)
- 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)
- AS 4685.1: 2014 Playground equipment and surfacing – General safety requirements and test method



Fairfield
Primary School

This policy was ratified by School Council in **May 2017**