



Sun Smart Policy

Purpose

The Berwick Chase Primary School Sun Smart Policy has been developed to ensure that all students and staff attending the school are protected as much as possible from skin damage caused by the harmful ultra violet rays of the sun. Students are made aware of and practice Sun Smart strategies.

Implementation

To adhere to the guidelines of the Sun Smart School Program as listed below, and implement them throughout the year, with particular emphasis from September to April when the UV rays are at their strongest.

- Encourage staff, visitors to our school and parents to act as role models for students.
- SunSmart behaviours will be regularly reinforced in a positive way. This can be achieved through student and teacher directed activities, parent meetings and the school newsletter.
- Students are required to wear the Berwick Chase Primary School bucket hats or navy broad-brimmed hats (or any appropriate Sunsafe hat) when outside from in Term One and Term Four. This includes on excursions and camps
- In Term One and Term Four, children without an approved Sunsafe hat will be required to play in a nominated covered area.
- Children will be encouraged to apply their own sunscreen (SPF 30+) before arriving at school.
- Personal sunscreen kept by students is not to be shared with other students due to allergies.
- Sunscreen is applied independently by the students before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if outdoors if/when necessary.
- Students are reminded to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.
- Staff will encourage children to play in shady areas whilst in the playground.
- Staff will where appropriate, will incorporate programs on skin cancer and sun safety e.g as part of a Health and Physical Education unit.
- The SunSmart behaviour of the school community will be monitored and any recommendations for improvement will be made through School Council.
- Students who do not have an appropriate broad brimmed hat will not be able to participate in outside activities during class instructional times.
- Students will be encouraged to drink water regularly and play quiet games on very hot days. The use of the hall may be required to provide extra shelter.
- Regular reminders of Sun Smart practices and behaviours, including the use of sunscreen and sunglasses, will be published in the school newsletter during the year when required.
- Where appropriate the Principal or Assistant Principal will instruct children to stay indoors during extreme weather conditions.
- To help maintain vitamin D levels, sun protection measures are not used from May until August, unless the UV index level reaches 3 or above.
- *******Staff must wear broad brimmed hats (or use an umbrella) for all outdoor activities in Term one and Term Four, including yard duty.** *****

Evaluation

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year cycle or beforehand if a significant issue arises.

Relevant documents / links

- DET School Policy & Advisory Guide (SPAG) [Sun & UV protection](#) (2016)
- DET [The Compact: Roles and Responsibilities in Victorian government school education](#): Principle 3 (2012)
- DET [OHSMS Implementation Guide](#) (2009)
- DET [Building Quality Standards Handbook](#) (BQSH): Section 8.5.5 Shade Areas
- DET [Guidelines for School Playgrounds](#) –Playground safety management: Section 3.2.5 (2012)
- DET [Outdoor activities](#)
- Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) [Your Child's Health Wellbeing and Safety](#) (Primary)
- Independent Schools Victoria (ISV) [Managing a school – Health & Safety Compliance Framework: OHS >Sun Protection](#)
- [My Time, Our Place: Framework for School Age Care in Australia](#) (2011)
- [Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework \(VEYLDF\)](#) (May 2016)
- Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) [The Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct](#) - Principle 3.2
- [Australian Professional Standards for Teachers](#) (APST) – Standard 4.4 and 7.2
- Education and Training Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into [Dress Codes and School Uniforms in Victorian Schools –Final Report](#)
- ARPANSA [Radiation Protection Standard for Occupational Exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation](#) (2006)
- Safe Work Australia: [Guidance Note – Sun protection for outdoor workers](#) (2016)
- AS 4685.1: 2014 Playground equipment and surfacing – General safety requirements and test methods

Evaluation as part of the schools Three Year Cycle

This Policy was ratified at School Council on 20/2/2018