

Sun Smart Policy



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Moe Elizabeth St Primary School on 03 5127 2607 or moe.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

PURPOSE

This policy applies to all school events on and off site and sun protection is used **‘during the daily sun protection times (whenever UV levels are three or above)’ which typically occurs ‘from September to the end of April’** in Victoria 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.

SCOPE

This Sun Smart policy provides guidelines to:

- 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 during the daily local sun protection times (issued whenever UV levels are 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 to help them be responsible for their own sun protection.
- Support duty of care requirements.
- Support appropriate OHS strategies to minimize UV risk and associated harms for staff and visitors.

POLICY

- Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention into curriculum.
- Regularly reinforce Sun Smart behaviour in a positive way through newsletters, student and teacher activities and rewarding appropriate hat wear, that protects the face, neck and ears, ie. Legionnaire and broad brimmed hats. All children should wear hats for all outdoor activities during the sun protection times.
- Students who do not have appropriate hats or outdoor clothing are directed to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun
- Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform / dress code and sports uniform. School clothing is cool, loose-fitting and made of densely woven fabric. It includes shirts with collars, longer style dresses and shorts and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming
- The availability of shade is considered when planning all other outdoor activities.
- Parents will be notified if students do not have hats for outside educational activities.
- Schedule outdoor activities as early as possible in the day during terms 1 and 4.
- Organise outdoor activities to be held in areas of shade whenever possible.

- Work towards increasing the numbers of shelters and trees so as to provide adequate shade in the school grounds.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning all other outdoor activities.
- When no hat is worn on the day a child will be given, if possible, a replacement hat for the activity or directed to stay under shelter.
- Student's parents can be given the option of providing their own SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen.
- Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes (where possible) before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours.
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies).
- As part of OHS UV risk controls and role-modelling, staff, families and visitors:
 - wear a sun protective hat, covering clothing and, if practical, sunglasses
 - apply SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen
 - seek shade whenever possible.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Any material suitable obtained from Cancer Council Victoria and SunSmart.
- Any kits deemed suitable.
- Local resources. (eg. School Nurse/Community Health Officers.)

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	October 2021
Approved by	Principal
Next scheduled review date	Before October 2022