



OSBORNES FLAT PS SUNSMART POLICY

Rationale:

Too much of the sun's UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Exposure to the sun's UV during childhood and adolescence is associated with an increased risk of skin cancer in later life.

Aims:

This SunSmart 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 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.
- Support duty of care requirements
- Support appropriate OHS strategies to minimise UV risk and associated harms for staff and visitors

Implementation:

- To assist with the implementation of this policy, staff and students are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times via the [SunSmart widget](#) on the school's website, the free [SunSmart app](#), or at sunsmart.com.au.
- The sun protection measures listed are used for all outdoor activities during the **daily local sun protection times**. *The sun protection times are a forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology for the time of day UV levels are forecast to reach 3 or higher. At these levels, sun protection is recommended for all skin types. In Victoria, UV levels regularly reach 3 or higher from **mid-August to the end of April**.*
- Children will be required to wear School Council approved school uniform, which will include shirts and skirts with collars, long sleeved garments, longer styled shorts and skirts, and broad brimmed hats (at least 6 cm rigid brim) whenever they are outside.
- Staff will act as role models by also wearing broad brimmed hats (at least 6cm rigid brim for buckets hats and 7.5cm for wide brimmed) when outside.
- Appropriate School Council approved school uniform hats for students will be readily available in the uniform store room for purchase.
- Staff members may wear broad brimmed hats of their own choosing so long as they have a 6cm or greater brim for buckets hats and 7.5cm for wide brimmed. Staff can choose to wear a school supplied School Council approved school uniform hat available from the uniform store if they wish.
- Children without broad brimmed hats will be restricted to play in designated shaded areas. Children who habitually don't bring a hat may be restricted from playing.
- Children will be actively encouraged to wear a broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30+). Sunscreen will be provided in each classroom, and on excursions. Sunscreen will generally be applied by students themselves or with the assistance of their sunscreen buddy according to the manufacturer's directions, under the supervision of teachers. Teachers may apply sunscreen to very young or disabled students if necessary, and if written parental approval is provided. The use-by date of sunscreen will be monitored and replaced when necessary.

- School Council also approves students wearing close fitting UV protection wrap around AS1067 sunglasses whenever they are outside.
- Whenever possible, outside activities on hot days will be scheduled before 11:00 am.
- The school council will provide adequate treed areas and shade structures for students as practicable; particularly over high density play areas such as sand pits and play equipment.
- The school newsletter and school assemblies will be used to highlight and reinforce the sunsmart message and to educate the community on the importance of adequate Vitamin D.
- Sunsmart activities, sun protection and the importance of Vitamin D will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in...

Oct 2017

- 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](#)
- [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/NZS 1067.1:2016, Eye and face protection - Sunglasses and fashion spectacles
- AS/NZS 4399:2017, Sun protective clothing - Evaluation and classification
- AS/NZS 2604:2012 Sunscreen products - Evaluation and classification
- Australian Government Therapeutics Goods Administration (TGA) – Australian regulatory guidelines for sunscreens: [4. Labelling and advertising – directions for use of the product](#)
- AS/NZS 4685.0:2017, Playground equipment and surfacing - Development, installation, inspection, maintenance and operation.6.2.1: General considerations, 6.3.9: Shade and sun protection, Appendix A: Shade and sun protection