

SUNSMART POLICY



BACKGROUND

At Camelot Rise Primary School we promote and support students, staff and the community to be proactive about the SunSmart Policy. Through our education programs we raise awareness and knowledge of the importance of being SunSmart in activities within the school program and beyond.

PURPOSE

Students and other members of the Camelot Rise Primary School community practise informed, safe, protective behaviours when outdoors to minimise skin damage caused by the ultra-violet rays from the sun.

GUIDELINES

This SunSmart Policy provides simple, practical and effective strategies to assist in the prevention of skin damage caused by ultra-violet rays from sun exposure in the school environment.

- Use sun protection (hats, sunscreen) from mid-August to the end of April (when Victoria's UV levels are typically above three). (Aligned to Cancer Council recommendation)
- This policy will be aligned with the SunSmart guidelines as outlined on the Cancer Council website.
- Staff are encouraged to access the daily SunSmart UV Alert at sunsmart.com.au (or on their own school website) to find out daily sun protection times to assist with the implementation of this policy.

IMPLEMENTATION

From September to April in Victoria a combination of sun protection measures are required whenever outdoors including:

- Students will be required to wear Cancer Council approved close-weave broad brimmed (at least 7.5 cm rigid brim) or the legionnaire style hats that protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside.
- 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 and longer sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts.
- Staff will act as role models by also wearing broad brimmed hats when outside.
- Students without approved hats or appropriate clothing will be required to remain in a designated shaded area.
- The school will assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection through the following methods.
- Students will be actively encouraged to wear a broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30+).
- Parents will be encouraged to have their children apply this in the morning before coming to school.
- Students will be encouraged to bring sunscreen during summer sports and whilst on excursions and camps.
- Teachers will encourage students to apply sunscreen prior to outdoor and during these activities.
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.
- Whenever possible, outside activities on hot days will be scheduled before 11:00 am.
- The Uniform Co-ordinator will ensure that school uniform broad brimmed hats are available for purchase from the uniform shop.
- Parents and other adults within the school community will be encouraged to model SunSmart behaviours when visiting school, assisting with sport, camps, excursions and during other outdoor activities.
- The school newsletter and school assemblies will be used to highlight and reinforce the SunSmart Policy.
- SunSmart activities and sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.

- Staff OHS and Role modelling- as part of OHS UV risk controls and role-modelling, between September and April in Victoria staff will be required to wear sun protective hats, clothing and sunglasses when outside.
- Apply SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen.
- Seek shade whenever possible.
- If the temperature rises to 35 degrees or more (as per Bureau of Meteorology website in particular our closest weather monitoring tower), the school will operate a hot timetable

EVALUATION

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

RELEVANT DOCUMENTS AND LINKS

- DET School Policy & Advisory Guide (SPAG) Sun & UV protection (2019)
- Victorian School Building Authority Building Quality Standards Handbook (BQSH): Section 5.1.4 Shade Areas (2018)
- DET Outdoor activities (2018)
- 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
- 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 (2007)
- ARPANSA Radiation Protection Standard for Occupational Exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation (2006)
- Safe Work Australia: Guidance Note – Sun protection for outdoor workers (2016)
- AS 4174:2018 Knitted and woven shade fabrics
- 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

CERTIFICATION

This policy was endorsed by School Council at the meeting held on 16th May 2019.

Signed.....
Principal

Signed.....
School Council President