

OAKLEIGH SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUNSMART POLICY

Rationale:

Over exposure to the sun presents a serious health risk. Students must therefore be educated as to the need for suitable sun protection, and protected from over exposure to the sun whilst at school. This policy applies to all school events on and off site.

Aims:

- To educate students as to suitable Sunsmart protection strategies.
- To 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 (generally mid-August – end of April).
- To encourage children and teachers to protect themselves from the harmful effects of the sun.
- To ensure the outdoor environment is sun safe and provides shade for students and staff.
- To support our school's strategies to meet its duty of care and occupational health and safety obligations to minimise harmful UV exposure and associated harm for students and staff.

Implementation:

- This policy is to be read as part of our Student Dress Code policy.
- To assist with the implementation of this policy, staff and students are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times at sunsmart.com.au or bom.gov.au. or via the SunSmart widget on the school's website or the free SunSmart app.
- A combination of sun protection measures are used for all outdoor activities during the sun protection times (whenever UV levels reach 3 and above), typically from **mid-August to the end of April**.
- All students will be required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears, i.e. legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats, whenever they are outside. Exceptions will be made for some sporting activities.
- NO HAT, NO PLAY rule. Children without a suitable hat will be supervised inside for half of recess and lunchtime times and restricted to stay in the designated shaded areas for the other half.
- Oakleigh South Primary School's school uniform and dress code includes sun-protective clothing, including: loose, cool, closely-woven fabric; shirts with a collar and/or high necklines; tops with elbow length or long sleeves and longer style shorts and skirts.
- In consultation with the school council, shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds.
- Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.
- Interschool sport will be held in the mornings in terms 1 and 4. Children will remain inside at recess and lunchtime if it is extremely hot, over 35 degrees Celsius. An announcement will be made advising teachers to follow the inclement weather timetable (hot-day timetable).
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going to events. Children will be encouraged to wear a broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF50+).
- SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, website, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and student enrolment.
- Sunsmart activities and sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.
- Our school is an accredited Sunsmart school at the Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria.

References: DET School Policy & Advisory Guide (SPAG) [Sun & UV protection](#)
SunSmart Victoria website [SunSmart](#)

Evaluation: This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four year review cycle.

This policy was reviewed and ratified by O.S.P.S School Council on Wednesday August 21, 2019.