



SUN SMART POLICY

Rationale:

Skin cancer (melanoma and non-melanoma skin cancers) accounts for the largest number of cancers diagnosed in Australia each year.

<https://www.aihw.gov.au/reports/cancer/skin-cancer-in-australia/contents/table-of-contents> sourced April 2020

Sun protection times are a forecast for the time of day UV levels will reach 3 or above. At these levels, sun protection is recommended for all skin types and the policy areas should be recommended. In NSW, UV levels are high enough (UV 3 or above) to damage unprotected skin most months of the year. UV levels are particularly high during the summer months and highest in the middle of the day.

Purpose:

To ensure that all the students and staff of the school are protected from exposure to the harmful effect of the sun, when engaged in outdoor activities at the school and when on excursions.

Obligations:

1. The school ensures there is;

- An increased awareness of the effects of the sun.
- Sufficient education for students to make informed decisions about skin protection.
- Appropriate encouragement and enforcement in regards to the wearing of protective clothing, hats and sunscreen by students and staff when they are exposed to the sun.
- An ongoing assessment of the school environment to ensure the development of sufficient shaded areas for all students and staff.

2. The Principal will ensure that;

- All staff have access to this policy.
- All parents/carers/families have access to this policy and that they are compliant to its expectations.
- There are stated consequences for non-compliance of this policy.





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3. Staff will ensure that;

- They comply with this policy.
- They monitor student compliance to this policy, and follow up all non-compliance with appropriate actions.
- They report situations which they consider could be harmful to students or staff.
- They act as role models by practising good sun protection behaviours: wearing sun smart clothing and hats, applying sunscreen, and staying in the shade when possible.

Sun safety Education

- For the purposes of ongoing staff and student awareness of sun safety, the school will bring attention to it before play, when on excursions, and at other times as deemed appropriate.
- The Sports Co-ordinator is expected to remain informed of current information through organisations such as the Cancer Council and NSW Health.
- Sun safety education will be included in the school curriculum where it is relevant.
- The school's policy will be available through the School Handbook, and web site.

Uniforms and clothing

- St Joseph's Primary uniform hats (broad-rimmed) are to be worn by all students' during outdoor activity. Students who do attend school without their uniform hat are instructed to play under their respective playground COLA.
- The School uniform, along with other sun protection, provides protection from the sun during most school events.
- Staff are encouraged to wear hats when exposed to the sun during outdoor activities and playground supervision.
- Staff members who predominantly work outdoors are encouraged to wear wide brimmed hats, and long-sleeved shirts and Cancer council approved eye protection/sunglasses.

Outdoor Activity (includes before school and lunch times)

Students must be wearing a hat during all outdoor activities. Enforcement of the Sun Smart Policy states that students not wearing a hat must play under their respective COLA in the shade.





Sunscreen use

- The use of sunscreen (minimum SPF 30+ broad spectrum water resistant) is encouraged and promoted.
- Sunscreen should be applied 20 minutes before going outside and reapplied every two hours if the outdoor activity exceeds 2 hours.
- The school will provide SPF 30+ broad-spectrum sunscreen.
- Where students cannot use the sunscreen the school is providing due to allergies etc., parents are expected to supply a suitable alternative.

Sport and Physical Education

- UV levels and daily sun protection times are used to plan daily activities and ensure a correct understanding of local sun protection requirements.
- Wearing of the School uniform hat will be mandatory during outdoor lessons.
- Wearing of the School Sports uniform that provides protection from the sun, will be mandatory during outdoor lessons.
- Sunscreen (minimum SPF 30+ broad spectrum water resistant) should be applied 20 minutes before going outside and reapplied every two hours if the outdoor activity exceeds 2 hours.
- The use of indoor and shaded areas will be considered as the first option where appropriate during high UV days.
- During all swimming activities, rash shirts and board shorts are recommended to be worn by all students as a sun safety precaution.

Excursions

- All sun protection measures will be considered when planning excursions.
- All excursion notes will notify the parents that appropriate sun safety measures must be provided by the student.
- If a child arrives for the excursion without the required sun protection equipment, the student will remain at school until the situation is rectified.





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Evaluation

- The school will evaluate the available shade area and make recommendations for improvements if deemed reasonable and necessary.
- Any future refurbishment and changes to the school will be evaluated to assess the impact on existing shaded areas and what additional requirements there will be based the proposed changes.

Policy Adopted: April 2020	Policy last reviewed: April 2024	Policy to be Reviewed: Ongoing, Within five years of last review.
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