

SunSmart Policy

2020

Rationale

The SunSmart program heightens the awareness of the need to protect the skin from the sun's harmful rays. As a Sun Smart school, Moorabbin Primary School has a responsibility to the students to ensure appropriate precautions are taken with regard to sun exposure.

1. Aim

- To educate and inform the school community of Sunsmart practices.
- To encourage all children at Moorabbin Primary School to adopt and practise Sunsmart protection measures throughout the year with particular emphasis from September to April.
- To provide shaded areas in the school grounds and to encourage the use of these areas.
- To promote forms of passive play and high level fluid consumption on days of high temperatures.
- To assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection.

2. Implementation

- The staff are encouraged to access the SunSmart UV Alert at sunsmart.com.au to find out daily local sun protection times to assist with the implementation of this policy.
- Children should wear the navy blue school broad brimmed or legionnaire hats which protect the face, neck and ears for outdoor use (e.g. recess, lunch, sport, carnivals, excursions and other outdoor activities).
- The wearing of hats is compulsory from September to April while the children are outside. Children not wearing hats will be placed in designated areas in the school yard that provides shade for the time they are outside. Parents of children who are consistently without hats will be notified.
- 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 elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.
- The school will provide and encourage the use of SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for staff and students.
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies).
- The school will incorporate programs on skin protection into the curriculum and regularly reinforce the Sunsmart Policy in a positive way.
- Whenever possible, the school will schedule outdoor activities in areas of shade.
- Staff will act as role models by practising Sunsmart behaviours.
- The school will encourage members of the school community to adopt Sunsmart practices.

3. Evaluation

- This policy will be reviewed for effectiveness in 3 years.

4. Resources

- Cancer Council Victoria and VicHealth
- Sunsmart website & relevant DEECD links

- Funds will be made available for sunscreen as part of the First Aid kits
- Uniform shop will sell hats and uniform

Relevant Documents / Links

- DEECD School Policy & Advisory Guide (SPAG) Sun & UV protection (2011)
- DEECD Health, Safety & Workcover
- Catholic Education Commission of Victoria (CECV) Occupational Health & Safety Guidelines
- Independent Schools Victoria (ISV) Compliance Framework
- Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF)
- Building Quality Standards Handbook (BQSH): Section 7.5.5 Shade Areas
- Education and Training Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into Dress Codes and School Uniforms in Victorian Schools -Government Response
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
- Radiation Protection Standard for Occupational Exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation (2006)
- Safe Work Australia: Guidance Note for the Protection of Workers from the Ultraviolet Radiation in Sunlight (2008)