



SUNSMART POLICY



RATIONALE

In Australia, over exposure to the sun can present a serious health risk. Students' learning needs to incorporate appropriate sun protection practices.

OBJECTIVES

The goals of the SunSmart Policy are to:

- Ensure that all students and staff maintain a healthy UV exposure balance.
- Support and encourage students to develop independent sun protection skills to help them be responsible for their own sun protection.
- Ensure that families and new staff are informed of the school's SunSmart policy.
- support our school's strategies to meet its duty of care and occupational health and safety obligations to minimise harmful UV exposure for students, staff and visitors.
- Work towards a school environment that provides shade for students, staff and the school community.

IMPLEMENTATION

- This policy is to be read as part of the Uniform policy which includes cool, loose fitting, sun protective clothing that covers the shoulders, neck and chest
- Staff and students will be 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 or myuv.com.au
- UV alert monitors will update the UV board each day at school
- A combination of sun protection measures will be implemented from mid-August until the end of April, and whenever the UV Index level reaches 3 and above.
- A combination of sun protection measures will be considered when planning all outdoor activities. (e.g. recess, camps, excursions, sporting events, swimming carnivals).
- Sun protection strategies will be incorporated into outdoor activities during the **daily local sun protection times**
- From mid-August to April, particular care will be taken between 10 am and 3 pm when UV levels reach their peak. Whenever possible, outside activities on hot days should be scheduled before 11:00am.
- Sun protection will not be implemented from May until mid-August, unless the UV Index level reaches 3 and above, to encourage students' acquisition of Vitamin D,

Shade:

- The school has sufficient shade and works towards sustaining the number of trees and shade structures so as to provide adequate sun protected areas in the school grounds.

- Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.

Sun Protective Clothing and Hats:

- Students will be required to wear the Cancer Council approved bottle-green, close-weave, broad brimmed hats (at least 8 cm rigid brim) that shade the face, neck and ears whenever UV levels are three and above (typically from mid-August to the end of April, when they are outside). Caps and visors are not considered a suitable alternative.
- The designated retailer (PSW) will ensure that bottle green broad brimmed hats and appropriate sun protective clothing (polo shirts, long/shirt sleeved) are available for purchase from the uniform shop. Department stores (K-Mart, Target, Big W etc.) also provide suitable hats and non-logo uniform.
- Students without broad brimmed hats will be restricted to play in designated shaded areas.
- The use of wrap-around sunglasses that meet Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses - Category 2, 3 or 4) will be encouraged.
- Staff will act as role models by also wearing broad brimmed hats (and sunglasses, if appropriate) and covered shoulders, when outside.

Sunscreen:

- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (eg reminder notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies, UV alert sign)
- Students will be actively encouraged to use their own broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30+) on excursions, camps and outdoor activities, in accordance with the manufacturer's directions. Time for application of sunscreen is allowed. Staff sunscreen will be provided.

Curriculum:

- Programs on skin cancer prevention and Vitamin D are included in the curriculum at every year level.
- Every class completes a SunSmart activity each year. Displays advertise the SunSmart message.
- The school reviews its SunSmart policy regularly, at least once every three years, by monitoring the school's compliance with its policy and making suggestions for improvement.
- Our school has an updated copy of our reviewed policy which includes the above criteria.

Approved By	Hallam Primary School Council
Approval Authority	
Date Reviewed	20/05/2021
Responsible for Review	Assistant Principal / Wellbeing Team
Next Review Date	2024
Reference:	www.sunsmart.com.au Cancer Council of Victoria

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was updated in 2021 and is scheduled for review in 2024.