
<i>Policy:</i>	<i>Sun Smart</i>
<i>School:</i>	<i>Benalla P-12 College</i>
<i>Section:</i>	<i>Students 3.9</i>
<i>Version:</i>	<i>Four</i>

Sun Smart Policy

Agreed Understandings

1. A balance of ultraviolet radiation (UV) exposure is important for health. Too much of the sun's UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Sun exposure in the first 10 years of life is a major factor in determining future skin cancer risk.
2. Too little UV from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones and muscles, and for general health.

Guidelines

1. To increase student and community awareness of skin cancer.
2. To assist students to develop strategies which encourage responsible decision-making about some UV exposure for vitamin D and sun protection.
3. To provide a safe school environment.
4. To encourage students, parents, teachers and staff to wear protective clothing, hats and sunscreen during high risk times such as lunch times, sports, camps and excursions.

Implementation

1. Staff are encouraged to access the Sun Smart UV Alert at sunsmart.com.au to find out daily local sun protection times to assist with the implementation of this policy.
2. This policy is to be read in conjunction with our uniform policy which includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.
3. Students will be required to wear school approved bucket hats that shade the face, neck and ears (at least 6cm brim) and comply with uniform policy.
4. Approved School Uniform hats are to be worn by students from 1 September to the 30 April whenever they are outside. Staff will act as role models by also wearing broad brimmed hats and practicing Sun Smart Behaviours.
5. Students will be allowed/encouraged to wear sunglasses provided by their family/carers. (Children and staff are encouraged to wear close fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.)
6. Students without approved college hats or appropriate clothing will be restricted to play in designated shaded areas.
7. SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is available for staff and children's use.
8. Parents should notify their classroom teacher/Home Group/Pastoral teacher if they do not support the use of supplied sunscreen for their Sunscreen is to be applied before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if outdoors. Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies).
9. Children are encouraged to apply their own sunscreen under supervision of staff.
10. Students will be actively encouraged by staff to maintain hydration, particularly on hot days, through the drinking of water.

11. On extreme alert days the Assistant Principal on the Primary campuses to make the decision whether to keep the students inside the buildings. The Assistant Principals on the Secondary campuses to have the option to keep students inside the building or allowed them to sit outside in the shade.
12. The Sun Smart policy will be reflected when planning all outdoor events eg camps, excursions, sporting events.
13. The school council will provide adequate shade structures for students as practicable; particularly over high density play areas such as sand pits and play equipment.
14. Students will be encouraged to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.
15. The regular reinforcement and promotion of Sun Smart behaviour and school policy will be highlighted through avenues such as the school newsletter, school assemblies, parent meetings, staff meetings and on student enrolment.
16. Sun Smart activities and sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.
17. Our school will continue our Sun Smart membership with Cancer Council Victoria.

Basis for discretion:

The basis for discretion lies with the Principal as an operational matter.

Date Implemented	May 2013
Reviewed and Amended Version One:	May 2013
Reviewed and Amended Version Two:	June 2013
Reviewed and Amended Version Three:	September 2015

Date of ratification by School Council: 10 December, 2015

Recommended date for review: **December, 2017**