



Kennington SunSmart Policy

Primary School

Rationale:

Too much exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun causes sunburn, skin damage and increases the risk of skin cancer. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to the lifetime risk of skin cancer. Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world.

Aims:

The goals of the SunSmart Policy are to:

- Increase student and community awareness about skin cancer and sun protection
- Encourage the school community to use a combination of sun protection measures
- Work towards a safe school environment that provides shade for students, staff and the school community
- Assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection
- Ensure that families and new staff are informed of the school's SunSmart policy

Basic Beliefs:

All children and staff use a combination of sun protection measures throughout the day to ensure they are well protected. Particular care is taken between 10 am and 2 pm (11 am and 3 pm daylight saving time) when UV levels reach their peak.

Our SunSmart policy is considered when planning all outdoor events e.g. assemblies, camps, excursions and sporting events. Where possible, we have outdoor activities or events earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon, or we try using indoor venues.

Implementation:

Shade

The school council makes sure there is a sufficient number of shelters and trees providing shade in the school grounds particularly in areas where students congregate e.g. lunchtimes, outdoor lesson areas and popular play areas.

In consultation with the school council, shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds.

The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all outdoor activities.

Children are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.

Children who do not have appropriate hats are required to sit in a designated area

Clothing

Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform / dress code and sports uniform. School clothing is made of close weave fabric and includes shirts with collars and longer sleeves and longer

style dresses. Children are required to wear hats between September 1st and April 30th, and are encouraged to wear them at other times. The hats must protect their face, neck and ears, i.e. legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats.

Sunglasses

Children who choose to wear sunglasses must wear a pair that is close fitting and wrap around. They should meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

Sunscreen

Children are encouraged to wear sunscreen and reapply as appropriate. The school will not provide sunscreen and teachers will not apply sunscreen.

Role modelling

Staff act as role models by:

- wearing sun protective hats and clothing when outside
- applying SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen

Families and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures (sun protective clothing and hats, sunglasses and sunscreen) when participating in and attending outdoor school activities. Children are encouraged to wear a rash vest or other suitable UV protective clothing when taking part in the swimming program.

Curriculum

Programs on skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum for all grade levels.

SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school homepage, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and on student enrolment.

Evaluation:

The school council and staff monitor and review the effectiveness of the sun protection policy every three years and revise the policy when required.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in March 2017.