



SUNSMART POLICY

RATIONALE:

A balance of ultraviolet radiation (UV) exposure is important for health. Pascoe Vale North Primary School recognises the importance of SunSmart education to ensure students maintain healthy UV exposure.

AIMS:

- To educate students about suitable SunSmart protection strategies.
- To encourage children and teachers to protect themselves from the harmful effects of the sun.
- Ensure all students and staff have some UV exposure for vitamin D.
- Ensure all students and staff are well protected from too much UV exposure by using a combination of sun protection measures.
- Ensure the outdoor environment is sun safe and provides shade for students and staff.
- Ensure students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills.
- Support appropriate OHS strategies to minimise UV risk and associated harms for staff and visitors

IMPLEMENTATION:

- Staff are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times at sunsmart.com.au or on the free SunSmart app to assist with the implementation of this policy.
- A combination of sun protection measures are used for all outdoor activities from **September to the end of April**.
- This policy is to be read as part of our Student Dress Code.
- Children will be required to wear approved SunSmart school hats from September to the end of April whenever they are outside.
- Staff will act as role models by also wearing hats when outside.
- Children without hats will be restricted to sit in the designated shady area.
- Children will be actively encouraged to wear a broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30+). Sunscreen to be provided by families (to avoid allergic reactions).
- Sunscreen may be applied by students according to the manufacturer's directions.
- It is the parent's responsibility to ensure that their children have sunscreen on when they arrive at school.
- Sunscreen will be made available at school for children to use, as long as they have signed parental permission to avoid exposing children who have allergies to risk.
- Whenever possible, outside activities on hot days should be scheduled before 11:00 am.
- 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.
- The office will ensure that school uniform hats are available for purchase.
- The school newsletter and school assemblies will be used to highlight and reinforce the sunsmart policy.
- Sunsmart activities and sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.
- The Principal/ Assistant Principal will make a 'hot day timetable' decision according to prevailing weather conditions.

EVALUATION:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle. This policy was last updated in June 2021 and is scheduled for review in May 2023.

June 2021

References: Exec Memo No 99/039,
Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria ph: 9635 5148

Vic Govt Schools Reference Guide - http://www.education.vic.gov.au/management/governance/referenceguide/enviro/4_5.htm