



St. Anne's Sunbury
Growth Wisdom Love

St Anne's Sunsmart Policy

Rationale

At St. Anne's Primary School we value the need to provide a safe, happy and secure environment for all members of the school community. The SunSmart policy has been developed to ensure that all students and staff attending this school are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun and educate them in being more aware of the effects of harmful UV rays. This is to be implemented between the months of mid August and the end of April or whenever UV rays reach three or more.

Too much of the sun's UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is associated with an increased risk of skin cancer in later life.

The policy also meets the regulations of;

- Occupational Health and Safety Act, 2004
- Educational Training and Reform Act 2006: Sch.5 Reg. 1 (1.2)

Behaviour

At St. Anne's Primary School we:

- require children to wear bucket, legionnaire or broad brimmed hats whenever they are outside (eg. recess, lunch, sport, excursions) during mid August and the end of April or whenever the UV rays reach three or more. Students not wearing a hat during these times will be excluded from any outdoor activities including play times--"No Hat, No Play"
- require all staff to wear appropriate protection against the sun rays during the above stated times of the year
- encourage staff and students to access a safe amount of UV from the sun for Vitamin D. Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones and muscles, and for general health
- work with the parent community to encourage them to provide SPF 30+ broad- spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for their child's use.
- encourage the daily application of sunscreen before and after school and prior (20 minutes where possible) to the lunch break.
- students 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 as possible
- encourage students to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.
- request staff and ask parents to act as role models by practicing SunSmart behaviours
- encourage students and staff to access the daily local sun protection times via the SunSmart widget on the school' website, the free SunSmart app. or at sunsmart.com.au or myuv.com.au

Curriculum

At St. Anne's Primary School we:

- incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention into the curriculum at all grade levels
- incorporate in the programs the need of Vitamin D and its relation to having healthy bones and muscles and general good health
- regularly reinforce SunSmart behaviour in a positive way through newsletters, school website, assemblies, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.
- ensure the Sunsmart policy is reflected in the planning of all outdoor events (eg. camps, excursions, sporting events).

Environment

At St. Anne's Primary School we:

- provide sun protective clothing items as part of our school uniform.
- schedule outdoor activities before 11am and after 3pm during daylight saving time (10am and 2pm other times) where possible.
- organise outdoor assemblies to be held in areas with plenty of shade where possible.
- schedule outdoor assemblies early in the day or in an area where all students can be in shade
- consider the availability of shade when planning all outdoor activities
- work toward increasing the number of shelters and trees so as to provide adequate shade in the school grounds.

Evaluation

The staff, School Advisory Committee and Student Representative Council will review the effectiveness of this policy each year. They will:

1. Review the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents, and visitors and make recommendations for improvement.
2. Assess shade provision and usage and make recommendations for increases in shade provision by completing a yearly shade audit .
3. Update and promote curriculum material relevant to SunSmart activities.

Staff Members Involved: All Staff and School Advisory Committee

Date of Ratification: 2017

Date of Review: 2020