



SunSmart

Sun Protection Policy

Currambine Primary School

Rationale

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Overexposure to the sun during childhood and adolescent is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer later in life. As students are at school during times of peak ultraviolet (UV) radiation, schools can play a major role in creating a supportive environment that minimises exposure and encourages sun protective behaviours.

Our sun protection policy has been adopted to ensure that all students, staff, parents and visitors attending *Currambine Primary School* are protected from skin damage caused by UV radiation from the sun. This policy is to be implemented when the forecast average monthly UV Index in our area is 3 or above (available from www.bom.gov.au). The sun protection practices outlined in this policy will be applied to all school activities, including sports carnivals, excursions and camps. The policy has been developed in consultation with the whole school community.

Our Commitment

Currambine Primary School will:

- Inform parents of this sun protection policy when they enrol their child/children.
- Brief all new staff on the sun protection policy.
- Promote sun protection via newsletters, assemblies, daily messages, whole school activities, and parent and staff meetings.
- Require students to wear broad-brimmed or bucket hat when outside.
- Direct students without a broad-brimmed hat to stay in an area that is protected from the sun.
- Encourage staff to wear hats for all outdoor activities, including playground duty.
- Encourage parents and guests to wear hats when participating in and attending outdoor school activities.
- Require students to wear broad-brimmed hats, sun protective clothing and sunscreen for all camps, sports and excursions. These items will be listed on the parent permission form.
- Work towards providing more provision of shade within the school grounds for students and staff, by planting trees and building shade structures. Particularly in areas where students congregate, for example, lunch, canteen, outdoor lesson areas.
- Encourage staff and students to use shaded or covered areas when outside.
- Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- Timetable as many outdoor activities as possible - including assemblies, sport and physical education – when the UV Index is below 3. When this is not possible activities should be scheduled as far from 12 noon as possible.
- Encourage the use of SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen by:
 - providing sunscreen in the classroom.
 - demonstrating how to apply sunscreen under the eyes.
 - allowing students to apply sunscreen prior to outdoor activities e.g. prior to school, before lunch, PE lessons, sports, excursions etc.
- Incorporate sun protection and skin cancer awareness programs into the appropriate Key Learning Areas of the school curriculum.

Our Expectations

Parents/carers will:

- Ensure your child/children has a broad-brimmed or bucket hat.
- Ensure that your child/children's clothing provides adequate protection from UV radiation.
- Ensure that your child/children has/have access to SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen before leaving for school.
- Act as positive role models by practising SunSmart behaviour.
- Support the school's sun protection policy, and help design and regularly update the policy.

Students will:

- Be aware of the school's sun protection policy.
- Take responsibility for their health by being SunSmart.
- Comply with SunSmart rules and guidelines by wearing suitable hats and clothing.
- Apply SPF30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen before going outdoors.
- Use shaded or covered areas outdoors.
- Act as positive role models for other students in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour.
- Participate in SunSmart education programs.

Evaluation

The School Improvement Committee will review the effectiveness of this policy every five years and make any necessary changes.

Visit **www.GenerationSunSmart.com** to receive FREE resources.

The Generation SunSmart website provides all educators with online workshops offering helpful information, tips and practical ideas about sun protection education, content delivery and sun protection in schools.