



SUN PROTECTION POLICY

RATIONALE

Sun protection is important to the Health and wellbeing of all students and staff at Mount Waverley Heights Primary School. Whilst the school is not directly responsible for each child's overall level of exposure to UV radiation we do have an obligation to ensure that every effort is made to minimise any of the harmful effects when they are at school. Sun protection is a joint responsibility of parents and the school during school hours.

GOALS

- Comply with DET guidelines and the requirements of the SunSmart program
- Create appropriate sun-safe environments and encourage behaviours that provide a healthy balance of safe UV exposure and the need for vitamin D from the sun
- Encourage behaviour change through education and role-modelling
- Protect staff and students from harm caused by overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation
- Implement guidelines from the Anti Cancer Council of Australia for both students and staff that minimises exposure to the sun and to help prevent skin damage and ensure we remain an accredited school

GUIDELINES

- All students should wear a broad brimmed, legionnaire or bucket style school hat (with deep crown and brim width of at least 6cm) from the beginning of September until the end of April.
- Any child without a SunSmart school hat will be unable to participate in outdoors activity and will be directed to take appropriate shelter
- Staff will be encouraged to model appropriate behaviours by wearing a SunSmart hat when outdoors
- The use of SPF30+ sunscreen by the children is encouraged but remains the responsibility of parents; teachers to remind children to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.
- A regular assessment of appropriate shelters and trees giving shade in the school grounds will be undertaken
- Students should develop an understanding of sun protection through the health curriculum on an annual basis
- Outdoor activities such as Sport and Physical Education programs should ideally be undertaken outside peak periods of ultra violet radiation
- Where required the school may implement "sweat day timetable" during days of high temperatures and strong winds; in these instances students may be asked to remain in class during recess and lunchtime breaks
- To regularly reinforce this policy in a positive way through newsletters and student/teacher activities and to make new families enrolling at the school aware of this policy
- Students will be encouraged to wear sunglasses (with plastic frames only) that adhere to Australian Standards

This policy will be reviewed as a part of the school's cyclic review process.

Status: Reviewed Oct 2017

Ratified: Nov 2017

Next Review: Oct 2020