



Sun Protection Policy



Rationale:

St Francis of Assisi Catholic Primary School acknowledges that Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world. Research indicates that childhood and adolescent sun exposure is a significant contributing factor to the development of skin cancer. As students are at school during times when UV radiation levels tend to be the highest, schools play a role in minimising student's UV exposure.

The sun protection policy provides appropriate sun protection control measures to ensure a safe environment and provides ongoing education that promotes personal responsibility for skin cancer prevention.

Aims

- To encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures all year round
- To work towards a safe school environment that provides shade for students, staff and the school community
- To assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection

Implementation

- All students 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 3 pm when UV levels reach their peak.
- The Sun Protection policy is considered when planning all outdoor events e.g. assemblies, camps, excursions and sporting events. Where possible, we aim to have outdoor activities or events earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon and use indoor venues.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and outdoor activities.
- Students are actively encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside. Students who do not have appropriate hats are asked to sit on the stage in the shade.
- Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform. School clothing includes shirts with collars.
- Students are also required to wear bucket hats that protect their face, neck and ears, whenever they are outside.
- SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is available for staff and student's to use. Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours as required. Time will be allocated for sunscreen application prior to outdoor activities.
- Staff act as role models by:
 - wearing sun protective hats, clothing and sunglasses outside (please note that baseball caps do not offer enough protection and are therefore not acceptable)
 - applying SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen and seeking shade whenever possible
- 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.
- Sun protection and skin cancer awareness programs are incorporated into appropriate areas of the school curriculum.
- Students are encouraged to be involved in initiatives to promote and model sun protection measures to the whole school community.
- 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.

www.cancerCouncilnt.com.au

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by the School Board in

November 2018