

SunSmart Policy

1. RATIONALE

Templestowe Park's SunSmart policy exists to ensure that all students and staff attending this school are protected from overexposure to the sun's ultraviolet radiation (UV). It is to be implemented throughout the year whenever UV levels reach 3 and above, typically from September through to the end of April in Victoria.

2. GOALS

- 2.1. To provide a safe and healthy environment that aims to offer protection from the harmful UV rays of the sun whenever possible.
- 2.2. To raise awareness throughout the school and its community about strategies to reduce the exposure of UV rays and why this is necessary.

3. IMPLEMENTATION

3.1 Behaviour

- Children are required to wear school hats which protect the face, neck and ears (legionnaire, and broad-brimmed hats) whenever they are outside (e.g. recess, lunch, sport, excursions).
- Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform / dress code and sports uniform. School clothing is cool, loose-fitting and made of densely woven fabric. It includes shirts with collars and elbow-length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts. Rash vests or t-shirts for our annual swimming event is strongly encouraged. SunSmart clothing is also encouraged on student free dress days.
- Where practical 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 area as possible.
- Students must provide their own SPF30+ (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen. Children and staff will be encouraged in the daily application of sunscreen before school, 20 minutes (where possible) prior to the lunch break and to reapply every two hours.
- Children will be encouraged to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.
- UV is a known OHS risk for staff. For this reason, staff will be regularly encouraged by the school's leaders during whole school meeting times to dress accordingly for yard duty, apply and reapply sunscreen and wear an appropriate hat.
- Staff and parents will be encouraged to act as role models by practicing SunSmart behaviours.

3.2 Curriculum

- Regularly reinforce SunSmart behaviour in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.
- Ensure the SunSmart policy is reflected in the planning of all outdoor events (eg. camps, excursions, sporting events) and is on the school website for community viewing.

3.3 Environment

- The availability of shade is considered when planning all outdoor activities.
- Activity organisers will also monitor the UV level on the SunSmart website or SunSmart app (UV level above 3 requires sun protection).
- Outdoor activities will be organised to be held in areas with plenty of shade whenever possible.
- The school will continue working to ensure sufficient shelters and trees exist to provide adequate shade in the school grounds.

4. BUDGET

Not Applicable

5. EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed by staff and the Education Sub Committee as part of the school's policy review process.

ACHIEVEMENT MEASURES

Staff will report on the effectiveness and implementation of this policy throughout terms 1 and 4.

Ratified by School Council: November 2019