



Elizabeth South Primary School Policy

Sun Protection Policy

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Related legislation/applicable section of legislation	DfE Sun Protection Policy 2020 Work Health and Safety Act 2012
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Status	Approved
Governing Council Ratification	27/10/2021

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Rationale

A balance of ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposure is important for health. Too much of the sun's UV radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Sun exposure during childhood and adolescence is a critical factor in determining future skin cancer risk.

Too little UV radiation from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones and muscles, and for general health. Sensible sun protection whenever UV is 3 and above does not put people at risk of vitamin D deficiency.

Objectives

This sun protection policy has been developed to:

- encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures whenever UV Index levels reach 3 and above
- work towards a safe school environment that provides shade for students, staff and the school community at appropriate times
- assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection
- ensure families and new staff are informed of the school's sun protection policy

It is an expectation that all staff, students and parents of Elizabeth South Primary School will use the following skin protection strategies.

1. Sun Smart Hats will be worn in Terms 1-4 and all staff and students will take particular care if in direct sun between the hours of 10am and 3pm when the ultraviolet (UV) radiation level is 3 (moderate) and above
2. Use the shade of trees, pergolas and tents whenever outdoors where possible
 - 2.1 Whenever possible, all outdoor activity sessions will be held in shaded areas
3. Wear appropriate clothing that protects the skin. Students will be expected to wear a school hat with a deep crown and a brim width of 6cms whenever they are involved in outside activities. Children not wearing the appropriate hat will be expected to sit in the shaded area near the garden shed or the sand pit at recess and lunch times.
4. Parents will be encouraged to apply a 30+ sunscreen on their children, before they come to school. Sunscreen will be available in the classroom for children to apply when/if required.
5. Reinforcing the Sun Smart message in all school activities and in general school procedures is an important strategy in the adoption of the skin protection behaviours
 - 5.1 Staff will be encouraged to routinely role model appropriate Sun Smart strategies in all school activities. Information about the school's Sun Smart Policy will be given to all staff, students and their families and will be available on the school's website.

Policy review

The school council and staff regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of the sun protection policy (at least every three years) and revise the policy when required.