



MALVERN VALLEY PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUN SMART POLICY

WELLBEING

RATIONALE

- To create healthy environments and encourage appropriate behaviours to allow some UV exposure for vitamin D and minimise overexposure to reduce skin and eye damage and skin cancer risk
- To encourage behaviour change through education and role-modelling
- To protect staff and students from harm caused by overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation.

AIMS

The aim of the SunSmart Policy is to:

- Increase student and community awareness about skin cancer and sun protection
- Encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures from September through to April inclusive
- Work towards a safe school environment that provides shade for students, staff and the school community
- Assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection
- Ensure that families and new staff are informed of the school's SunSmart policy

IMPLEMENTATION

1. All students will be required to wear School Council approved school uniform, which will include shirts and skirts with collars, long sleeved garments, longer styled shorts and skirts, and broad brimmed hats (at least 6 cm rigid brim) from September through to April inclusive to ensure they are well protected when outside.
2. Our SunSmart policy is considered when planning all outdoor events e.g. assemblies, camps, excursions and sporting events. Where possible, we have outdoor activities or events earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon, or we try using indoor venues.
3. **Shade**
 - 3.1 The school council makes sure there is a sufficient number of shelters and trees providing shade in the school grounds particularly in areas where students congregate e.g. lunch, canteen, outdoor lesson areas and popular play areas.
 - 3.2 In consultation with the School Council, shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds.
 - 3.3 The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all outdoor activities.
 - 3.4 Children are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside. Children who do not have appropriate hats or outdoor clothing are asked to play in the shade
4. **Clothing / Hats / Sunglasses (optional) / Sunscreen**
 - 4.1 Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform and sports uniform. School clothing is made of close weave fabric and includes shirts with collars and longer sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts.
 - 4.2 Children will be actively encouraged to wear a broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30+). Sunscreen will be provided in each classroom, and on excursions. Sunscreen will generally be applied by students themselves, under the supervision of teachers. Teachers may apply sunscreen to very young or disabled students if necessary, and if written parental approval is provided. The use-by date of sunscreen will be monitored and replaced when necessary. Students who have allergies should provide their own sunscreen.
5. **Curriculum**
 - 5.1 Incorporate sun protection and skin cancer prevention programs into the school curriculum where appropriate
 - 5.2 Events and activities with a particular SunSmart focus should not be timetabled to coincide with peak UV times
 - 5.3 Teachers will have access to up to date information on skin cancer and its prevention

6. School Organisation

- 6.1** All students will be sun protected during PE and sport held outdoors
- 6.2** Suitable clothing will be worn at camp and notification of this will be included in communications to parents
- 6.3** All teachers will model Sunsmart behaviour
- 6.4** Students will be required to play in the Amphitheatre if they do not have a hat

RESOURCES

<http://www.sunsmart.com.au/communities/early-childhood-primary-schools/sample-policies>

EVALUATION

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

RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: 2015

TO BE REVIEWED: 2018