

Silverton Primary School

SUNSMART

POLICY

Rationale:

- Over exposure to the sun presents a serious health risk. Students must therefore be educated as to the need for suitable sun protection, and protected from over exposure to the sun whilst at school.

Aims:

- To educate students and staff as to suitable sunsmart protection strategies.
- To protect students and staff from the harmful effects of the sun.
- To support duty of care requirements.
- To protect students and staff from over exposure to UV radiation.

Implementation:

- This policy is to be read as part of our Uniform Policy.
- Children will be required to wear School Council approved hats (at least 8 cm rigid brim) from the beginning of September to the end of April whenever they are outside.
- Staff will act as role models by also wearing broad brimmed hats when outside.
- Children without appropriate hats will be restricted play in the undercover courtyard.
- Children will be actively encouraged to wear a broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30+). Sunscreen will be provided in each learning centre, and on excursions. Sunscreen will be applied by students according to the manufacturer's directions, under the supervision of teachers. Children should be reminded to apply sunscreen prior to going outside (e.g. play breaks, sport, excursions etc.) from the beginning of September to the end of April).
- Encourage the daily application of sunscreen before school and prior to play breaks.
- Whenever possible, outside activities on hot days should be scheduled before 11:00 am.
- The school council will provide adequate shade structures for students as practicable; particularly over high density play areas such as sand pits and play equipment.
- The School Uniform Shop will ensure that school uniform approved hats are available for purchase from the uniform shop.
- The school newsletter, website, SENTRAL, class assemblies and school assemblies will be used to highlight and reinforce the sunsmart policy.
- Sunsmart activities and sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.
- Our school will seek accreditation as a Sunsmart school from the Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria.

Curriculum:

- Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention into the curriculum at all grade levels.
- Develop strategies that remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder on excursion/incursion permission notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies).
- Regularly reinforce Sunsmart behaviours in a positive way through Newsletters, as well as student and teacher activities.

- Ensure that the Sunsmart policy is reflected in the planning of all outdoor events (e.g. camps, excursions, sporting events etc.)

Physical Education:

- “No Hat, No Play” from the first day of September to the end of April; students without the correct school hat will not be permitted to participate in Physical Education or Interschool sport.
- Sunscreen application will be encouraged by all staff.

Considerations:

- A shade audit to be conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade.
- The school to make sure there is a sufficient number of shelters and trees providing shade in the school grounds, particularly in areas where students congregate, e.g. outdoor lesson areas and popular play areas.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all other outdoor activities.
- In consultation with School Leaders, shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds.
- Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.
- Sunsmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through Newsletter, SENTRAL, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and on student enrolment (via the Information Booklet).
- Students with low vitamin D levels may be exempt from wearing sunscreen in the allocated times with parental consent.

Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in...	March 2016
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