



All Saints' School – Boonah

Sun Protection Policy 2019-2022

Aim

This policy aims to protect all employees, students, contracted services, parents, families and volunteers of All Saints' School, Boonah, from the harmful effects of UV radiation exposure.

Involvement

This policy applies to all employees, students, visitors, contracted services, families and volunteers of All Saints' School, Boonah, while on the premises and involved in excursions that require leaving the premises.

Rationale

Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Skin cancers account for 80 per cent of all new cancers diagnosed each year in Australia, making it by far the most common type of cancer diagnosed.

Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun. UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is associated with an increased risk of skin cancer later in life. Given students and employees are at school during peak UV times, schools play a major role in providing an environment where policies and procedures can positively influence long-term SunSmart behaviour.

With this in mind, schools need to take into account the need to support students, employees, parents and visitors to the school by providing and promoting a SunSmart environment.

SunSmart Environments & Behaviours

1. Seek shade

- Provide a variety of shade (i.e. built, natural and portable) in all areas where students congregate including areas for lunch, outdoor teaching and sport.
- Encourage students to use available shade.
- Consider shade availability when planning all outdoor events and excursions.
- Conduct regular shade assessments to determine future needs.

2. Slip on sun protective clothing

- Make school uniforms SunSmart as per Cancer Council Queensland recommendations. This includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts, and long pants.
- Encourage rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.

3. Slap on a hat

- Ensure hats worn by students cover the face, neck and ears such as broad-brimmed, bucket or legionnaire style. Peak caps and visors are not considered a suitable alternative.

4. Slop on sunscreen

- Make available SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen or encourage students to supply their own.
- Encourage students to apply sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors and to reapply every 2 hours when outdoors for extended periods.

5. Slide on sunglasses (optional)

- Where practical, students are encouraged to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard AS1067.

Our Commitment

All Saints' School, Boonah, will:

- inform parents of this Sun Protection Policy when they enrol their child.
- increase the amount of shade in the school grounds, where possible, by building shelters and planting trees.
- incorporate education programs that focus on skin cancer prevention into the school curriculum
- encourage all employees to act as positive role models for children in all aspects of SunSmart behaviours.
- seek ongoing support from parents and the school community for the Sun Protection Policy and its implementation, through newsletters, social media and parent meetings.
- ensure that all students, employees and visitors wear hats that protect the face, neck and ears, and use SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen, when involved in outdoor activities
- enforce the no hat no play rule, and those without appropriate sun protection remain in under covered areas.
- ensure that, wherever practicable, outdoor activities take place before 10am and after 3pm.
- ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events, and that the school sports kits includes SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen.

Our Expectations

Parents/Carers will:

- provide a broad brimmed or bucket hat for their child and ensure that they wear it to and from school.
- ensure that their child's clothing provides adequate sun protection, including shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts, and the inclusion of rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.

Students will:

- be aware of the school's Sun Protection Policy.
- take responsibility for their own health and safety by displaying SunSmart behaviours.
- comply with the Policy's rules and guidelines by wearing suitable hats, clothing and sunscreen.
- use shaded or covered areas when outdoors.
- act as a positive role model for other students in all aspects of SunSmart behaviours.
- participate in SunSmart education programs.

Policy Timing and Review

- This policy is effective from 1 November 2019 and will be reviewed every three years to ensure it remains current and practical.
- Policy updates and requirements will be made available to the school community.

Next policy review: 1 / 11 / 2022

Approved by All Saints' School Principal, Shane Seymour.