

POLICY: SUNSMART POLICY

1. PURPOSE

Our Sun Protection Policy has been developed to encourage children attending Brentwood Park P.S. to protect themselves from skin damage caused by the ultra-violet rays of the sun. This policy is to be implemented year round, with particular emphasis between 1st September and 1st May. In teaching our students about their skin and how to protect it, we are developing good habits for the future. Currently two out of three Australians will develop at least one skin cancer in their life and the research is increasingly developing a link between childhood exposure to the sun and the risk of developing skin cancer.

2. AIMS

Our SunSmart policy is aimed at:

- children and staff wearing hats that protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside. e.g. recess, lunch, physical education lessons, excursions and camps between 1st September and 1st May.
- encouraging parents and the school community to act as role models by practising Sun Smart behaviours.
- working with parents/guardians to encourage them to provide SPF 30+ broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen for children to use when outdoors.
- scheduling outdoor activities before 11am and after 3pm, in shaded areas where possible, between 1st September and 1st May.
- working towards increasing the number of shelters and trees so as to provide adequate shade in the school grounds.
- educating children of the health risks through the curriculum.

4. IMPLEMENTATION

- All children will wear an approved uniform hat whenever they are outside. This will be mandatory from 1st September to 1st May.
- Children are expected to wear school uniform, which comprises clothing appropriate for wearing in the sun. On free dress days, children must still wear sun smart appropriate clothing.
- Children who do not have a hat during the required period will be restricted to indoor play. Children who are without a hat three days in a row will be issued with notices which will inform parents that their child has not been wearing a hat at school.
- Teachers will address the issue of skin cancer through curriculum program, such as 'Healthy Relationships', 'Life Education Van' and 'Learning and Growing Together', at the beginning of each year.
- All staff must wear hats when outdoors, while on yard duty or when conducting sport or physical education classes. Staff members are to act as suitable role models between 1st September and 1st May.
- The Buildings and Grounds Committee will continually make provision for adequate tree shade and other shaded areas.
- Parents will be encouraged to provide children with sunscreen, which must be independently supplied.

3. EVALUATION

To be revised as necessary.

1. Review the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents and visitors,

and make recommendations for improvements.

2. Assess shade provision and usage and make recommendations for the further development of shade provision.
3. Update and promote curriculum material relevant to SunSmart activities.