

# LANCELIN PRIMARY SCHOOL

## SUN SMART POLICY

2020 - 2022



### Rationale

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Overexposure to the sun during childhood and adolescent is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer later in life. As students are at school during times of peak ultraviolet (UV) radiation, schools can play a major role in creating a supportive environment that minimises exposure and encourages sun protective behaviours.

Our sun protection policy has been adopted to ensure that all students, staff, parents and visitors attend Upper Swan Primary School are protected from skin damage caused by UV radiation from the sun. This policy is to be implemented when the forecast average monthly UV index in our area is 3 or above (available from [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)). The sun protection practices outlined in this policy will be applied to all school activities, including sports carnivals, excursions and camps. The policy has been developed in consultation with the whole school community.

### Our Commitment

Lancelin Primary School will:

- Inform parents of this sun protection policy when they enrol their child/children.
- Brief all new staff on the sun protection policy
- Promote sun protection via newsletters, assemblies, daily messages, whole school activities, and parent and staff meetings
- Required students to wear broad-brimmed, bucket or legionnaire hats when outside
- Direct students without a broad-brimmed, bucket or legionnaire hat to stay in the under covered area only.
- Require staff to wear broad-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hats for all outdoor activities, including yard duty.
- Encourage staff and students to wear a swim (rash) top for swimming

- School dress code includes sun protective items such as shirts with collars and longer sleeves, hats with broad brims and longer style shorts and skirts.
- Ensure there is adequate provision of shade within the school grounds for students and staff, by planting trees and building shade structures. Particularly in areas where students congregate, for example, lunch, outdoor lesson areas.
- Encourages staff and students to use shaded or covered areas when outside.
- Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- Timetable as many outdoor activities as possible – including assemblies, sport and physical education – when the UV index is below 3. When this is not possible activities should be scheduled as far from 12 noon as possible.
- Encourage the use of SPF30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen by: providing sunscreen in the classroom, allowing students time to apply sunscreen prior to outdoor activities.
- Incorporate sun protection and skin cancer awareness programs into the appropriate Key Learning Areas of the school curriculum
- Review the sun protection policy annually.
- Ensure there is sunscreen available in every classroom.

## **Our Expectations**

### ***Parents/carers will:***

- Ensure your child/children has a broad brimmed, legionnaire or bucket style hat
- Ensure that your child/children's clothing provides adequate protection from sun and harmful UV radiation.
- Ensure that your child/children has/have access to SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen before leaving for school.
- Act as positive role models by practising SunSmart behaviour.
- Support the school's sun protection policy, and help design and regularly update the policy.

### ***Students will:***

- Be aware of the school's sun protection policy
- Begin to take responsibility for their health by being SunSmart
- Comply with SunSmart rules and guidelines by wearing suitable hats and clothing
- Apply SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen before going outdoors
- Use shaded or covered areas outdoors
- Participate in SunSmart education programs

## **Evaluation**

Health and Well Being committee members will review the effectiveness of this policy every 3 year cycle, in line with the PSR Process, and make any necessary changes.

They will:

1. Review the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents and visitors and make recommendations for improvement
2. Assess shade provision and usage and make recommendations for increases in shade provisions
3. Update and promote curriculum material relevant to SunSmart activities.
4. Maintain our status as a Sunsmart School.