

# Policy Document

## SUNSMART Policy\_v1.1

### Rationale

- To increase student and school community awareness of the risks of skin cancer.
- To develop strategies that encourage practical means of skin protection.
- To ensure students and staff wear hats and protective clothing for outdoor activities, especially during high risk times to ensure protection from skin damage caused by harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun.
- To ensure all students and staff get some UV for vitamin D.

### Objectives

- A SunSmart Behaviour, Curriculum and Environment Code will be adopted.
- That staff will model SunSmart behaviour.
- Students and staff will wear SunSmart hats and use a combination of sun protection measures between 1 September and 30 April.
- Parents will be encouraged to apply a broad spectrum 30+ sunscreen.
- Ensure that the SunSmart policy is reflected in the planning of all outdoor events, such as camps, sporting days.

### Implementation

- Staff are encouraged to access the SunSmart widget at [sunsmart.com.au](http://sunsmart.com.au) (or <http://www.stonningtonps.vic.edu.au>) to find out daily local sun protection times to assist with the implementation of this policy.
- The sun protection measures listed below are used whenever students and staff are outside between 1 September and 30 April:
  - Students and staff will wear recommended school hats that protect the face, neck and ears when outside.
  - Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform / dress code and sports uniform. School clothing is cool, loose fitting and made of densely woven fabric. It includes shirts with collars and longer sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.
  - Parents will be encouraged to supply and apply a SPF30 or higher, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen to their children before school.
  - Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies).
  - Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes (where possible) before going outdoors, and reapplied every two hours.
- A SunSmart Curriculum will be introduced. This will be achieved by:
  - Regularly reinforcing SunSmart behaviour in a positive way through the school newsletter, parent information meetings and student and teacher activities.
  - Incorporating programs on skin cancer prevention within Physical Education and Health programs.
- A SunSmart Environment code will be introduced. This will be achieved by:

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- Organizing outdoor activities in areas of shade whenever possible.
- Ensure the SunSmart policy is reflected in the planning of outdoor activities.
- Outdoor activities may be minimised on days with extreme temperatures.
- Working towards increasing the number of shelters and trees to provide shade.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning all other outdoor activities.
- Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.

### Evaluation

- Regular review of staff and student attitudes to adopting SunSmart protective behaviour.
- Update and promote curriculum material relevant to SunSmart activities.
- Assess school provision and usage and make recommendations for increases in shade provision.
- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four-year review cycle.
- This policy supports the Stonnington PS Code of Conduct and should be read in conjunction with this.

### Relevant Documents / Links

- DEECD School Policy & Advisory Guide (SPAG) Sun & UV protection (2011)
- DEECD Health, Safety & Workcover
- Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF)
- Building Quality Standards Handbook (BQSH): Section 7.5.5 Shade Areas
- Education and Training Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into Dress Codes and School Uniforms in Victorian Schools -Government Response
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
- Radiation Protection Standard for Occupational Exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation (2006)
- Safe Work Australia: Guidance Note for the Protection of Workers from the Ultraviolet Radiation in Sunlight

### Ratification

Ratified by School Council:	19 October 2016
School Council President:	Shane Rogerson
Principal:	Anne McPhee