



Sunsmart Policy

Purpose:

The purpose of this policy is to encourage behaviours at Lyndhurst Primary School to minimise the risk of skin and eye damage and skin cancer.

This policy provides guidelines to:

- support staff and students to use a combination of sun protection measures when UV index levels are 3 or above (generally mid-August – end of April)
- ensure that there are outdoor environments that provide adequate shade for students and staff
- ensure students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills to help them to be responsible for their own protection
- support our school's strategies to meet its duty of care and occupational health and safety obligations to minimise harmful UV exposure and associated harm for students and staff.

Scope:

This policy applies to all school activities, including camps and excursions. It is applicable to all students and staff.

Implementation:

- *The sun protection measures listed are used for all outdoor activities during the daily local sun protection times.*
- *The sun protection times are a forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology for the time of day UV levels are forecast to reach 3 or higher. At these levels, sun protection is recommended for all skin types. In Victoria, UV levels regularly reach 3 or higher from mid-August to the end of April.*

Lyndhurst Primary School is a SunSmart School and employs the following practices

Behaviour

- During the Sunsmart period (mid-August – 30th April), children must wear Lyndhurst Primary School uniform wide brimmed / bucket hats which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside eg. recess, lunch, sport and excursions.
- Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform dress code and sports uniform. School clothing is made of close weave fabric and includes shirts with collars and longer sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.
- Children who do not wear a hat or appropriate clothing are restricted to one shaded area in the playground during recesses and lunches.
- Children are encouraged to wear SPF 30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen whenever possible. Children are encouraged to keep their own sunscreen at school and reapply it at lunchtime.
- Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if outdoors.
- Children are reminded to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.
- When Lyndhurst Primary School children are out of the school grounds, they are still expected to use sunscreen and hats. At sporting events, shade will be provided for children waiting to participate in their events.
- All staff should follow these guidelines and wear hats whilst on yard duty and involved in sporting events.

Curriculum

- Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention and vitamin D into the curriculum.
- Regularly reinforce SunSmart behaviour in a positive way through the school bulletins, information meetings, student and teacher activities and at senior, junior and general school assemblies.



Environment

- There are many shady areas in our school playground. Children are encouraged to use these, especially during periods of sustained high temperatures.
- Our school is not well treed but many trees have been planted with more planting planned in the future.
- School fitness sessions are all scheduled before 12.00.
- Junior and senior sport sessions are scheduled in the mornings.
- The sport teacher is aware of shaded and indoor areas for Physical Education sessions if these are scheduled between 11.00 am and 3.00 pm.

Further Information and Resources:

The following Department of Education and Training policies are relevant to this policy.

DET School Policy & Advisory Guide (SPAG) [Sun & UV protection](#) (2019)

Victorian School Building Authority [Building Quality Standards Handbook](#) (BQSH): Section 5.1.4 Shade Areas (2018)

The following school policies are relevant to this policy.

This policy is to be read in conjunction with our Student Dress Code.

Other relevant policies:

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 Sections 21 and 23: Main Duties of Employers Section 25: Duties of Employees www.worksafe.vic.gov.au > Laws and Regulations > Acts and Regulations

Safe Work Australia: [Guidance Note – Sun protection for outdoor workers](#) (2016)

AS 4174:2018 Knitted and woven shade fabrics

AS/NZS 1067.1:2016, Eye and face protection - Sunglasses and fashion spectacles

AS/NZS 4399:2017, Sun protective clothing - Evaluation and classification

AS/NZS 2604:2012 Sunscreen products - Evaluation and classification

Australian Government Therapeutics Goods Administration (TGA) – Australian regulatory guidelines for sunscreens: [4. Labelling and advertising – directions for use of the product](#)

AS/NZS 4685.0:2017, Playground equipment and surfacing - Development, installation, inspection, maintenance and operation.6.2.1: General considerations, 6.3.9: Shade and sun protection, Appendix A: Shade and sun protection

Policy review and approval:

Last approved:	01-2022	Responsible:	Person/group responsible
Next Review date:	01-2022	Approved by	Principal/School Council
Consultation:	Presented at School Council June, 2022		

 Interpreter	Help for non-English speakers If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office on 03 8768 6700 or by email at lyndhurst.ps@education.vic.gov.au
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