

2017 POLICY**SUN SMART**Leader: **Danielle Stella****1. Rationale**

The Taylors Hill Primary School Sun Smart Policy has been developed to ensure that all children and staff are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultra-violet rays of the sun. Too much of the sun's UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is strongly associated with an increased risk of skin cancer in later life.

Procedures

To assist with the implementation of this policy, staff and students are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times via the [SunSmart widget](#) on the school's website, the free [SunSmart app](#), or at sunsmart.com.au

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.

2. Broad Guidelines

- 2.1 To provide a safe Sun Smart environment at THPS.
- 2.2 To make students aware of the need to take measures to prevent skin cancer.
- 2.3 To comply with the recommendations of the Cancer Council in order to be registered as a Sun Smart School.

3. Implementation

School Council ensures there are sufficient shelters and trees providing shade in outdoor areas particularly in high-use areas e.g. where students have lunch, canteen, assembly, sports, outdoor lessons and popular play spaces. In consultation with the School Council, shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds.

The availability of shade is considered when planning all other outdoor activities.

Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.

Students who do not have appropriate hats or outdoor clothing are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

- 3.1 All students are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears (broad-brimmed or bucket hat), whenever they are outside including recess, lunch, sport and excursions, between mid August and end of April. Peak caps and visors are not considered a suitable alternative. A Sun Smart hat as provided by the PSW uniform suppliers is part of the THPS uniform.
- 3.2 Students without an approved hat must stay in a designated shaded area while outside.

- 3.3 Cool, loose-fitting, sun protective clothing made of densely woven fabric is factored into our school uniform policy, including shirts with collars and elbow-length sleeves, longer dresses and shorts
- 3.4 Classroom programs in all grade levels will include lessons on Sun Smart behaviour and all staff members will model this behaviour appropriately.
- 3.5 Avenues such as the newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities and whole school assemblies will be used to positively reinforce the Sun Smart Policy and promote the active use of sunscreen before school, before recess and lunch as well as during outdoor sporting events.
- 3.6 Parents will be encouraged to apply SPF 30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen to students before arriving at school each day from mid August to the end of April. Parents will also be encouraged to supply SPF 30(or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for their child for application throughout the day. Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors, including reminder notices.

As part of OHS UV risk controls and role-modelling, staff, families and visitors are encouraged to:

- wear a sun protective hat, covering clothing and, if practical, sunglasses;
- apply sunscreen; and
- seek shade whenever possible.

4. Evaluation

This policy will be evaluated as part of the school's cyclic review program.

Relevant documents / links

- DET School Policy & Advisory Guide (SPAG) [Sun & UV protection](#) (2016)
- DET [The Compact: Roles and Responsibilities in Victorian government school education](#): Principle 3 (2012)
- DET [OHSMS Implementation Guide](#) (2009)
- DET [Building Quality Standards Handbook](#) (BQSH): Section 8.5.5 Shade Areas
- DET [Guidelines for School Playgrounds](#) –Playground safety management: Section 3.2.5 (2012)
- DET [Outdoor activities](#)
- Victorian Institute of Teaching (VIT) [The Victorian Teaching Profession Code of Conduct](#) - Principle 3.2
- [Australian Professional Standards for Teachers](#) (APST) – Standard 4.4 and 7.2
- Education and Training Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into [Dress Codes and School Uniforms in Victorian Schools –Final Report](#)
- ARPANSA [Radiation Protection Standard for Occupational Exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation](#) (2006)
- Safe Work Australia: [Guidance Note – Sun protection for outdoor workers](#) (2016)
- 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*