

SunSmart Policy

Playford Primary School is a learning community demonstrating the values of:
Respect, Responsibility, Honesty, Cooperation and Fair Go.

“We are all committed to developing positive relationships and foundations for life-long learning in order to maximize the potential of our school community.”

In the context of our school vision and values we provide this SunSmart Policy.

Playford Primary is currently registered as a SunSmart School and has been accredited by the Cancer Council of South Australia.

The objective of this policy is to implement a comprehensive Sun Protection Plan that actively protects students and staff from dangerous overexposure to the sun. This is reflected through curriculum activities, the behaviour of students, staff, parents and carers and the environment around the school.

This policy is endorsed so that students (Reception to Year 7) and staff are protected from harmful ultraviolet (UV) rays. Skin damage caused by harmful UV rays can lead to serious skin cancer (melanoma) in later life. Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world, with skin cancers accounting for around 80% of all new cancers diagnosed each year. At least 1 in every 2 Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer in their lifetime.

This SunSmart policy is to be implemented throughout the year.

Objectives:

At Playford Primary School we aim to:

- Promote and practise positive attitudes towards practices that ensure skin protection.
- Teach children about lifestyle practices that can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer.
- Encourage children to accept personal responsibility for skin protection.

As part of the general skin protection strategy, it is compulsory that:

- All students and staff at Playford Primary School will wear a school hat when outside at school except the winter.
- All students are encouraged to wear their school hat to and from school each day except the winter months.
- Students participating in before and after school activities must wear a hat except the winter months.
- Students participating in water activities (swimming, aquatics) must wear a T-Shirt.
- Students must wear sun smart clothing on casual clothes days.
- Students who do not wear a school hat during recess and lunch times will be required to play in a shaded area of the yard (except winter months).
- Students who do not wear a school hat during sport lessons and/or any outdoor activities, will be required to sit in a shaded area and not participate (except winter months).
- Staff members will provide positive role modelling regarding sun protection.
- Teachers will use shady areas and indoor venues whenever possible.



Our school will:

- Ensure that school hats are appropriate and satisfy *The Cancer Council South Australia* guidelines.
- Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- Provide more shelters and shady trees.
- Encourage the use of SPF 30+, broad spectrum and water-resistant sunscreen.
- Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention in the curriculum.
- Regularly reinforce the SunSmart Policy in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.
- Outdoor activities will be held in areas of shade whenever possible.
- Teachers will schedule outdoor activities before 10am and after 3pm from the beginning of September to the end of April, whenever possible, and when the UV is 3 and above outside of these times.

When enrolling a child, parents will be:

- Informed of the SunSmart Policy.
- Requested to purchase a school hat.
- Encourage parents/carers to provide SPF 30+, broad spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for their child's use.
- Encouraged to practise skin-protective behaviour themselves.

Hot Weather Policy

Our school does not close or dismiss early because of hot weather. All classrooms and work areas are air-conditioned. When the temperature on any given day is 36° or above at 12.45pm, students will play inside the classrooms during lunch.

After School Activities

If the temperature on any given day is advertised as 36° or more, all outside after school activities will be cancelled.

Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually to ensure that it meets the most current guidelines of the Cancer Council of South Australia.

INTERVENTION

The school community support a note being sent home to parents/carers of students who repeatedly do not wear a hat to remind them of their responsibility in regard to their child's welfare.

Disciplinary action will only occur in relation to the non-wearing of hats if a student deliberately fails to comply with the designated shade requirement.

According to DECS Legal & Risk Management Services, parents/carers who wish their children to be exempt from this policy will need to provide a written authority for their children to be excused from sun protection procedures.

Amended: January 2015



DECD - Administrative Instructions & Guidelines

3.88.3 Exemptions

"Students may be granted exemption from the Sun Protection Policy provided that parents/caregivers