



SUN PROTECTION POLICY

DOCUMENT CONTROL

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Approved By: Principal Governing Council	Principal: Maureen Davidson	Governing Council Chairperson: Lea Nancarrow
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Next Review: 12 Months (31 / 10 /2019)	Policy Scope: School Specific	Date Approved: 31 / 10 /2018
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Background

Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world, and at least two in three Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer before aged 70. Melanoma is the most common cancer in Australians aged 12-24 years, and sun exposure during childhood and adolescence is a critical factor in determining future skin cancer risk. It is estimated up to 95% of skin cancers can be prevented by adequately protecting the skin when the UV is 3 and above.

UV radiation cannot be seen or felt, and differs from infrared radiation that we feel as heat. UV levels are determined by the angle of the earth to the sun, and are therefore unrelated to temperature. Damage from UV radiation is cumulative and irreversible.

Purpose

The Sun Protection policy at Lockleys Primary School aims to:

- Increase student and community awareness of skin cancer,
- Adopt practical sun protection measures,
- Develop strategies, which encourage responsible decision making about sun protection,
- Work towards a safe school environment, which provides shade for students and staff,
- Encourage students, parents, teachers and staff to wear protective clothing, hats and sunscreen for high-risk times such as recess and lunch times, outdoor lessons and excursions, and
- Inform parents and caregivers of enrolling students of the school's Sun Protection Policy.

Implementation

Sun protection and skin cancer awareness programs are incorporated throughout the school's curriculum for all year levels, R- 7. This may be done in Health and PE, and Science as well as incidentally in other curriculum areas.

Teachers have access to the current information as recommended by Cancer Council SA, on skin cancer and its prevention, sun exposure and vitamin D.

In line with the Department for Education and SunSmart guidelines, a combination of sun protection measures are used during terms 1, 3 and 4, and whenever the UV is 3 and above at other times.

Behaviour

Students are required to wear sun protective hats and clothing for outdoor activities. These are the school broad brimmed or bucket hats and polo shirts. They are a part of our uniform and all students are expected to wear the school uniform.

Sun protective clothing and hats are required on casual days and school events e.g. tops with longer sleeves and collars or higher necklines and longer-style shorts, skirts and dresses.

All staff are required to wear appropriate clothing and hats and apply sunscreen, and where, possible seek shade while on duty.

Parents are encouraged through newsletters to practise SunSmart behaviour including the wearing of hats and sunscreen, especially at working bees, sports days or on school excursions.

SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is provided in each classroom and students are required to apply it 20 minutes prior to going outside, and reapply every 2 hours if outdoors for extended periods or during water activities.

School Organisation

Our school is working towards both increasing and maintaining shade in our grounds for student and community use. Playgrounds are covered by 98% UV shade cloth. Trees and shelter are made available for students to sit under for shade. The SunSmart message is reinforced in classrooms, at assemblies and in newsletters.

Students who do not have a hat at playtime are directed to stay in a designated shade area. Students who do not have a hat for outdoor learning activities are asked to borrow a spare hat so they can participate. Students are actively encouraged to seek and use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.

School uniform hats must be worn for all outdoor activities for Term 1, Term 3 and Term 4 and whenever the UV Index levels reach 3 and above. Outside of these terms, and when the UV level is below 3, hats are not required to help maintain vitamin D during winter.

All staff, volunteers and students must check the staff room door to see if the 'hat' sign is being displayed. If the 'hat' sign is displayed, it is compulsory for hats to be worn.

Wrap-around sunglasses, meeting Australian Standard 1067, may be worn during outdoor activities. School monitors UV levels by accessing the SunSmart App and / or website on a daily basis.

Lunch-time play is conducted in classrooms on days of extremely high UV levels. Recess play time is reduced to 10 minutes. In extremely high UV conditions students are required to stay indoors during lunch and recess.

Wherever possible, PE/Sport are scheduled during off peak UV radiation times and in consideration of the daily sun protection times or in shaded areas such as the gymnasium.

Swimming lessons are held in an enclosed swimming pool. For Aquatics, students are encouraged to wear a Rash top or T shirt, hat and sunscreen.

On excursions it is a requirement that students wear suitable hats, clothing and sunscreen.

Our Policy can be accessed in the School Handbook and is available on the school website.

Cultural and Religious Headdress

As Lockleys Primary School is a very multicultural school, specific cultural and religious headdresses which are not part of the dress code may be worn. These may include but not limited to a Dastar (turban) and Hijab headscarf. However, as we are a SunSmart School, hats must still be worn during the implementation times, as per Sun Protection Policy. Hats may be worn over cultural and religious headdresses (unless not practical).

Monitoring and Evaluation

The Sun Protection policy is to be reviewed and updated on an annual basis

Signed and Endorsed by:

Principal

Governing Council Chairperson

Date Approved: / /2018

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