



Sunsmart Policy

Rationale

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. It is estimated that more than 75% of all skin cancers could be prevented by practising sun protection in early childhood and adolescence.

This SunSmart policy has been developed to ensure that all students and staff attending Kyabram P-12 College OSHC are protected from over-exposure to the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun. This policy documents our sun protection practices in the areas of behaviour, curriculum and environment. These practices will be applied to all school activities including sports carnivals, excursions and camps. It is to be implemented whenever UV Index levels reach 3 and above. In Victoria, average UV Index levels are 3 and above from the beginning of September until the end of April.

Aims

The goals of the SunSmart Policy are to:

- Increase student and community awareness of skin cancer.
- Assist students to develop strategies which encourage responsible decision making about skin 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 during high risk times such as lunch times, sports, excursions and camps.
- Ensure that parents are informed of the school's SunSmart policy.

Implementation:

Behaviour

- Guide all students and staff to wear sun protective hats that shade the face, neck and ears during recess, lunch time and during sporting and other high risk activities; and apply at least SPF 15 broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen before all outdoor activity and re-apply every two hours.
- Encourage all staff and students to wear clothing with sleeves and collars that are made from a closely woven fibre and to use shade areas in the school grounds.
Rewards system for positive SunSmart behaviour including wearing SunSmart hats.

Excursions and Incursions

- Broad brimmed hats and sunscreen are be required for all excursions and incursions.

Adult role models

- Appropriate behaviour should be modelled by teachers and parents to reinforce the policy.

Curriculum

- Incorporate sun protection and skin cancer prevention programs into the OSHC program.
- Promote sun protection throughout the year via the school newsletter, OSHC program and Seesaw app.

Environment:

- Ensure there is adequate provision of shade within the school grounds for students and staff.
- Sunscreen is provided at OSHC.
- SunSmart practices are promoted regularly from September through to May.

Evaluation:

The OSHC Committee in collaboration with the Student Representatives will review the effectiveness of this policy each year. They will:

- Review the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents and guests visiting the school.
- Assess the provision of shade in the OSHC service.
- Assess the use of shade by students and staff.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	May 2023
Consultation	August 2023 College Council August 2023 College Newsletter
Approved by	College Council
Next scheduled review date	June 2026