



SUNSMART

POLICY

This policy applies to all school events on and off-site.

Purpose

Our SunSmart policy provides guidelines to:

- ensure all students and staff are protected from over-exposure to UV radiation;
- ensure the outdoor environment provides shade for students and staff;
- ensure students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills to help them be responsible for their own sun protection;
- support duty of care requirements; and
- support appropriate OHS strategies to minimise UV risk and associated harms for staff and visitors.

Background

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.

Legislation and Standards

- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
- Health Act 1911 - WA
- School Education Act 1999 (WA)
- School Education Regulations 2000 (WA)

Procedures

- To assist with the implementation of this policy, staff and students are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times via 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**.

1. Seek shade

- The school board makes sure there are sufficient shelters and trees providing shade in outdoor areas particularly in high-use areas e.g. where students have lunch, canteen, assemblies, sports, outdoor lessons and popular play spaces.
- 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 as approved by the School Board in the Edney Primary School Dress Code will be subject to the "No School Hat - No Play" policy and must remain in sheltered areas such as the verandas or undercover area at playtime.
- In consultation with the school board, shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds.
- A shade assessment is conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade.

2. Slip on sun protective clothing

- Cool, loose-fitting, sun protective clothing made of densely woven fabric is included in our school uniform / dress code and sports uniform. It includes shirts with collars and longer dresses and shorts and recommends rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming

3. Slap on a hat

- All students are required to wear Edney Primary School bucket hats that protect their face, neck and ears whenever they are outside.

4. Slop on sunscreen

- Students are encouraged to provide their own SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen. This is included on the school's booklist each year.
- The school will also supply SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for staff and student's use.
- Sunscreen is applied in accordance with the manufacturer's directions (which state to apply at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapply every two hours, or more frequently if sweating or swimming).
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies).

5. Slide on sunglasses [if practical]

- Where practical students are encouraged to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

Learning and skills

- Programs on sun protection are included in the curriculum for all year levels.

Engaging children, educators, staff and families

- SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school website, staff and parent meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and at student enrolment/new staff orientation.
- As part of OHS UV risk controls and role-modelling, staff, families and visitors:
 - wear a sun protective hat, covering clothing and, if practical, sunglasses;
 - apply sunscreen; and
 - seek shade whenever possible.

Monitoring and review

- The school board and staff monitor and review the effectiveness of the SunSmart policy and revise the policy when required (at least once every three years) by completing a policy review and membership renewal with SunSmart at sunsmart.com.au.
- SunSmart policy updates and requirements will be made available to staff, families and visitors.