



## Sun Smart Policy and Extreme Weather Policy

Rationale: 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 in Australia. Therefore we need to teach our school community about sun protection and skin cancer awareness and make them more aware of daily UV levels in order to help them make better choices about when they should be covering up.

Too little UV radiation from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones and muscles, and for general health. Sensible sun protection when UV is 3 and above does not put people at risk of vitamin D deficiency.

### The Policy

Staff are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times on the SunSmart app or <http://www.myuv.com.au/>, to assist with implementing this policy.

**School Hours:** The school uses a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities during terms one, two, three and four and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above at other times.

**Before school care:** sun protection is not required as the UV radiation levels are rarely above 3 during this time.

**After school care:** sun protection is required during Terms One through to Four, and whenever the UV is 3 and above at other times. Staff are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times to determine if sun protection measures are required during Terms Two and Three.

**Vacation care:** sun protection is required for all outdoor activities throughout the year.

- A combination of sun protection measures are considered when planning outdoor events e.g. camps, excursions, sporting activities and swimming carnivals.
- Considerations will be given to the conditions for outdoor activities on the day. Whenever possible, outdoor activities in direct sunlight will be taken outside peak UV times.
- The school ensures there is a sufficient number of shelters, portable shade structures and trees providing shade in the school grounds, particularly in areas where students congregate e.g. canteen, outdoor lesson areas and popular play areas.



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- Students will wear hats whenever they are playing or participating in activities outdoors. Students who do not wear a school broad brimmed or a legionnaire style hat during playtime will play in shaded areas, or be directed to the library. Students without hats during lesson time when hats are required will be required to sit in the shade.
- Students are encouraged to come to school wearing the appropriate sunscreen on days when the peak UV level is expected to be 3 and above.
- The school will incorporate sun protection, skin cancer, and Vitamin D awareness activities into teaching programmes for all year levels.
- The school uniform is compulsory for all students. The design of the school uniform provides good protection from the sun. The uniform design provides sun protection to students including shirts and polo tops with elbow and full length sleeves, with collars, along with skirts, dresses and shorts which are of a longer style.
- School hats are the only hats that students are allowed to wear. These are hats with a brim width of 8-10 cm, legionnaire style hat to provide protection to the face, neck and ears.
- Students will be actively encouraged to seek shade whenever the UV is 3 and above and the availability of shade will be considered when planning outdoor events, activities and excursions.
- Students attending outdoor swimming / aquatic activities are required to wear T-shirts or Rash Vests or swimming gear which fully covers their trunk.
- Sun protection must be incorporated into the planning of all outdoor events by all groups associated with the school.



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### The Responsibilities of Staff:

- To routinely explain to students about sun protection, UV levels and why people need to cover up and protect their skin at play times and for outside activities.
- To model appropriate skin protection practices whenever the UV is 3 and above including wearing sun protection clothing, appropriate hats, sunglasses and seeking shade, and for Work Health and Safety.

### The Responsibilities of Parents:

- To provide a school broad brimmed or legionnaire style hat for their child
- To ensure that children participating in the outside school hours activities of school sporting teams (games and practice) are properly protected, in accordance with this policy.
- Parents/visitors are expected to role model sun protection behaviours when they are visiting Morphett Vale Primary School.
- Provide their child with SPF 30 or 50 Broad Spectrum Water Resistant Sunscreen if their child/ren have sensitive skin.

### After School Hours Care, After School Hours Sports practice and Games:

- All students, coaches and team managers are to comply with our sun-safe policy. Spectators and family members are encouraged to model sun-safe behaviour also.

### The Responsibilities of All Students:

To comply with the Sun-Smart Policy by:

- Wearing a broad brimmed, bucket style or legionnaire style school hat
- To ensure sunscreen is applied at home before school
- Re-applying SPF 30 or 50 Broad Spectrum Water Resistant Sunscreen when directed (allergies and consent permitting) 20mins before leaving the classroom and is reapplied every 2 hours when outdoors.



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- Following sun-safe procedures during all school related activities outside school hours, such as, SAPSASA sport, After School Hours Care, After School Hours Sports practice and games.

### Extreme Weather Policy

Rationale: This policy outlines the agreed approaches to days when the temperature is above 35 degrees before First Break or midday and/or weather conditions are unpleasant due to wet weather, children will remain in their unit during play breaks.

The Extreme Weather Policy will ensure extreme weather duty is equitable for all staff.

Outline: **The Duty Teacher will:**

- **Library & Playground & Oval** teachers on duty go to the Red Centre with Lisa
- **Oval & Basketball Court & Canteen** teachers on duty go to the Admin building to support those 3 classes
- **Entry** to Red Centre will be through **Library Door**
- **Toilet Areas** are supervised

Duty Teachers need to ensure that students are respecting their space and the property of others.

Tubs of activities will be provided for students to access

SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school website, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and in student enrolment packs.

The school and staff regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of the sun protection policy (at least every three years) and revise the policy when required.

**To be reviewed: Term 3 2023**

**Version 1: Term 2 2018**

**Version 2: Term 1, 04 March 2020**

**Version 3: Term 2, 05 May 2022**