



WINDAROO STATE SCHOOL

Sun Safety Policy

Rationale

Year-round sun protection is important for all children and young people in Queensland as research demonstrates that high ultraviolet radiation (UVR) exposure in childhood and adolescence significantly increases the risk of developing skin cancer.

Our school aims to educate our students about being sun safe in order to develop important, life-long, healthy habits, and acknowledges the important role adults play during and outside school hours to reinforce sun safety with children and young people.

In implementing this policy, our school and community recognise that:

- the policy applies to all school and school-related activities and events;
- the strategies are to be implemented during the whole school day and year-round; and
- a combination of sun safe strategies is more effective than a single approach.

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
Clothing requirements	Students are required to wear protective clothing, including appropriate hats, when outdoors during the school day and during school-related activities (for example, excursions/camps) to reduce students' exposure to the sun, including the following strategies: Hats • Students are required to wear appropriate hats when outdoors. The only exceptions when playing sport are when a hat reduces visibility or interferes with activity skills and therefore poses a risk to students' safety; or when wearing a hat is not possible because other headwear is required to be worn for religious or safety reasons. Under these circumstances, students may remove their hats for the duration of the activity, ensuring they have applied sunscreen to uncovered skin (ideally 20 minutes) prior to participating. • Our school uniform hats are either broad-brimmed or bucket hats. • Staff remind students to wear hats before and during lunch breaks, and to and from outdoor activities. Swim shirts • Students are required to wear swim shirts/rash vests during all water-based activities occurring at outdoor venues, except during their race/s at competitions and carnivals.
Shade provision and use	Our school maximises the use of available shade for outdoor activities: • Temporary shade structures are used as necessary for outdoor events.
Education	Our school provides educational programs on sun safety and preventative measures through the following strategies:

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
	Curriculum, teaching and learning - Sun safety is formally taught as part of the implementation of the Australian Curriculum through Health and Physical Education Incidental teaching and promoting sun safe behaviours - Incidental teaching of personal sun safety strategies occurs in all year levels as part of the school routine on a regular basis, for example, through reminders to students to wear hats and apply sunscreen. Staff professional development - Staff are informed about the school's sun safety policy and its requirements on induction.
Sunscreen provision	Our school recognises the importance of sunscreen use as a sun safe measure and implements the following strategies: - The school supplies SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for student use. - Parents/carers are encouraged through social media and newsletter items to have their children apply sunscreen before school. - Parents/carers are encouraged to provide sunscreen for their child if they don't wish their child to use the school's sunscreen.
Modelling sun safe behaviours	Our school promotes the importance of parents/carers, teachers, ancillary staff, volunteers and other adult supervisors as role models for students using the following strategies: Parents/carers are encouraged to have their children apply sunscreen before they come to school and provide personal sunscreen for their children to use at school.
Additional strategies	Other strategies our school uses to be sun safe include: - Sunscreen is available on Sports Days, Gala Sports and outside events. - Review the Sun Safety Policy-annually to ensure that the information remains current and relevant. - Include the Sun Safety Policy on the School Website. - Parents/Carers are requested to update their child's medical details if their child is allergic to the sunscreen provided. No child will be 'forced' to apply sunscreen.
Endorsed by:  Susan Anderson, P&C President Date of endorsement: 10/10/24	Approved by:  Danielle Roff, Acting Principal Date of approval: 10/10/24