



Campus – Nativity Pilgrim Thiele

Skin Protection Policy 2018

Aberfoyle Park Primary School Campus

Prepared by	Campus Leaders
Date Prepared	2018
Review by	Julie Wicks
Date for Review	2021
Status	Board Approval not required
	Change on website, inform parents newsletter

1. **Policy:**

This policy outlines the school's practices that meet a minimum national standard in sun protection covering the areas of curriculum, behaviour and the environment at Aberfoyle Park Primary School Campus (to be referred to as Campus).

This policy is implemented during Terms 1, 3 and 4, and whenever the UV is 3 and above at other times. Staff are encouraged to access the daily sun protection times via the SunSmart app or www.myuv.com.au to assist with implementing this policy.

2. **Rationale:**

Australia has one of the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world, with at least two out of three people being diagnosed with some form of skin cancer before aged 70. Skin damage, including skin cancer is a result of cumulative exposure to the sun, and sun exposure during childhood and adolescence is a major factor in determining future skin cancer risk. It is estimated 95-99% of skin cancers are caused by overexposure to UV radiation, and is therefore preventable by protecting the skin when the UV is 3 and above.

Ultra Violet Radiation (UVR) can't be seen or felt, and the damage is cumulative and irreversible. UVR levels are lower in winter than in summer, however skin damage does still occur when UV levels are 3 and above. On a clear winter's day the ultra violet rays can still be strong enough to cause skin damage.

Primary schools can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and the number of related deaths by encouraging all members of the school community to take effective skin protection measures.

3. **Scope:**

This policy applies to all members of the Campus school community including students and staff.

4. **Policy Objectives:**

4.1 The objectives of the Skin Protection policy are to promote:

- Encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures whenever the UV Index is 3 and above
- Lifestyle practices which can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and the number of related deaths
- Assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection.
- Ensure families and new staff are informed of the school's Skin Protection policy

5. **Policy Outline:**

5.1 General skin protection strategies:

- Children will wear hats which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside. (eg recess, lunch, sport, sports carnivals, outdoor excursions and activities). Broad brimmed or legionnaire and bucket hat styles are required. Children not wearing sun protective clothing and hats will be required to play in an area protected from the sun. Teachers responsible for classes before an outdoor activity are to remind students about the wearing of hats (E.g. class teachers before attending PE, teachers supervising classes at eating times).
- At times of the year when UV radiation levels are below 3, students and staff are encouraged not to wear hats or sunscreen to maintain optimum vitamin D absorption.
- Sun protective clothing is included as part of the school uniform/dress code. This includes shirts with collars and short sleeves that cover the upper arm, longer style shorts, skirts and dresses.
- Children will be encouraged to use available areas of shade for outdoor play activities.
- Outdoor activities will be held in areas of shade whenever possible, and scheduled outside of the peak UV times of the day.
- As part of WHS UV risk controls and role modelling, staff will wear a sun safe hat, sun protective clothing and sunscreen when outdoors. Staff are expected to wear hats when the students do.

- Parents are required to provide a named SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for their child's use. Sunscreen is also provided in classrooms.
- Sunscreen is applied 20 minutes prior to going outside and re-applied 2 hourly if outside for an extended period of time or sooner if involved in water or sport activities. This remains the responsibility of the parents to supply.
- Promote the slip, slop, slap, seek and slide practice.
- The use of sunglasses that have an Eye Protection Factor (EPF) rating of 10 and are from a category two, three or four and meet the Australian standard (AS/NZ 1067:2016) is encouraged where appropriate.

5.2 Campus will:

- Ensure that school hats are appropriate and satisfy the Department for Education requirements and Cancer Council SA guidelines for sun protection.
- Ensure that maximum protection is available to students at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- Provide shelters and shade trees.
- Have available SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for staff and student use on days where children are at outdoor events. (eg Sports Day, Aquatics, beach excursions etc).
- Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention in its curriculum.
- Reinforce regularly the Skin Protection Policy in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.
- Insist that students comply with skin protection measures when going on excursions.
- Include information on excursion notes about skin protection measures.
- Agree to undertake policy reviews with Cancer Council SA to ensure policy and practice stay up to date with the national standards and the Department for Education requirements.

5.3 When enrolling a child, parents / carers will be:

- Informed of the Campus Skin Protection Policy.
- Requested to purchase a school hat or provide an appropriate hat for their child's use.
- Encouraged to practise skin protective behaviour themselves, especially when attending school events and activities.
- Requested to provide their child with a named, SPF 30 or higher, broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen.

5.4 Responsibilities:

To Ensure the safety of Campus staff required to carry out duties in the outdoors,

the Principals will:

- Discuss with staff the need to wear protection while working in the outdoors.
- Where necessary, rearrange the duties of outside staff required to spend a substantial amount of time of the working day in the sun to minimise exposure to ultraviolet radiation.

Teachers will:

- Model sun smart practices at all times.
- Promote sun smart strategies with the students in their care.
- Consider the Skin Protection policy when planning outdoor learning programs or events.

Parents / Carers will:

- Support the school in implementing and promoting skin protection practices.
- Model skin protective behaviour themselves.
- Provide their child with appropriate clothing / protection requested by the school (eg required broad brimmed or legionnaire's hat).

To be reviewed in 2021

For information and support:

Cancer Council SA

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Eastwood SA 5063

Cancer Council 13 11 20

Email: sunsmart@cancersa.org.au