



## Sun Smart Policy

### Policy Statement

At Canning Vale Primary School all students and staff will adopt sun smart practices.

### Rationale

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Over exposure to the sun during childhood and adolescence is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer later in life. As students are at school during times of peak ultraviolet (UV) radiation, schools can play a major role in creating a supportive environment that minimises exposure and encourages sun protective behaviours.

Our sun protection policy has been adopted to ensure that all students and staff are protected from skin damage caused by UV radiation from the sun and parents and visitors attending Canning Vale Primary School are encouraged to adopt similar behaviours. This policy is to be implemented year around. The sun protection practices outlined in this policy will be applied to all school activities, including sports carnivals, excursions and camps. The policy has been developed in consultation with the whole school community.

### Policy Details

Canning Vale Primary School will:

- Inform parents of this sun protection policy when they enrol their child/children;
- Brief all new staff on the sun protection policy as part of the induction process;
- Promote sun protection via newsletters, assemblies, daily messages, whole school activities, and parent and staff meetings;
- Require students to wear broad-brimmed hats when outside throughout the year;
- Direct students without a broad-brimmed hat to stay in the undercover area that is protected from the sun;
- Require staff to wear a hat for all outdoor activities, including yard duty;
- Encourage parents and guests to wear a hat when participating in and attending outdoor school activities;
- Require students to wear broad-brimmed, sun protective clothing and sunscreen for all camps, sports and excursions. These items will be listed on the parent information form;
- Require staff and students to wear a swim (*rash*) top for swimming if outside;
- Maintain the school dress code to include sun protective items;
- Ensure there is adequate provision of shade within the school grounds for students and staff, by planting trees and building shade structures, particularly in areas where students congregate, for example, lunch, canteen, outdoor lesson areas, and playground equipment.
- Encourage staff and students to use shaded or covered areas when outside.
- Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- Timetable as many outdoor activities as possible in the undercover stage area or the Canteen undercover area - including assemblies, sport and physical education. When this is not possible activities should be scheduled as far from 12 noon as possible or postponed.

- Encourage the use of SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen by:
  - Asking parents to provide sunscreen for their child/children for the school year.
  - providing sunscreen in the classroom.
  - encouraging children to apply sunscreen before the school day commences
- Incorporate sun protection and skin cancer awareness programs into the appropriate Key Learning Areas of the school curriculum.
- Review the sun protection policy annually.

### **Our Expectations**

#### *Parents/carers will:*

- Ensure their child/children has a broad-brimmed hat. (7.5 cm brim)
- Ensure that their child/children's clothing provides adequate protection from UV radiation. Cancer Council WA recommends the following:
  - collars and sleeves
  - closely woven fabric
  - natural fibre
  - swim (*rash*) tops for swimming.
- Ensure that their child/children has/have access to SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen before leaving for school.
- Act as positive role models by practising SunSmart behaviour.
- Support the school's sun protection policy, and help design and regularly update the policy.

#### *Students will:*

- Be aware of the school's sun protection policy.
- Take responsibility for their health by being SunSmart.
- Comply with SunSmart rules and guidelines by wearing suitable hats and clothing.
- Apply SPF30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before school starts.
- Use shaded or covered areas outdoors.
- Act as positive role models for other students in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour.
- Be actively involved in initiatives to protect the school community from over-exposure to the sun.
- Help design and regularly update the SunSmart policy.
- Participate in SunSmart education programs.