



CAULFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUNSMART POLICY

POLICY NO. 1.10

Rationale:

The major cause of skin cancer is exposure to harmful UV radiation from the sun. Australia has some of the highest UV levels in the world and also one of the highest rates of skin cancer. UV light is also the trigger that our bodies need to produce Vitamin D for healthy bones and muscles.

Protecting skin from UV over-exposure and sunburn reduces the probability of skin cancer and other skin damage. The danger period for UV is between 10am and 2pm (11am and 3pm daylight saving time) from September until April. During these times, the sun can cause skin damage even in short periods.

The Victorian SunSmart program aims to manage the effects of UV radiation exposure on health; promoting a balance between minimising the harmful effects of UV rays and the benefits of boosting Vitamin D production. Caulfield Primary School's SunSmart policy acknowledges the importance of a healthy balance of UV exposure, and uses the Sunsmart program's recommendations to minimise sun exposure during danger periods.

Policy statement:

- Caulfield Primary School will ensure that all persons (students, staff, volunteers and school community) are protected from excessive sun exposure during school hours and at school events
- Staff, children and families share responsibility for ensuring that the SunSmart policy and procedures are accepted and implemented.
- In meeting the duty of care, it is a requirement under the OH&S Act that management and educators implement and endorse the CPS SunSmart policy and ensure a level of protection to all persons who access the facility or programs.

Implementation:

Managing the physical environment (September to April)

- CPS will provide adequate shade structures for students as practicable; particularly over high density play areas such as sandpits and play equipment
- CPS will consider the availability of shade when planning and programming outdoor play experiences and excursions.

- On days of extreme temperature or UV exposure, outdoor activities will be avoided and alternative arrangements will be made for activities to take place indoors.

Protective behaviours and practices (September to April)

- Children and staff are required to wear broad brimmed hats when outdoors during school hours and at school events. Children without hats will be required to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.
- Broad brimmed hats are a requirement of uniform and are to be purchased from the uniform shop.
- School uniform will include items with long sleeves, loose fitting and longer legs as made available at the uniform shop.
- Drinking water will be available to children and encouraged throughout the day to maintain hydration levels, regardless of indoor or outdoor play settings.
- Educators, Students and Volunteers must wear a sun-protective hat, apply SPF30+ broad spectrum sunscreen and seek shade whenever possible when supervising outdoors or facilitating children’s play experiences and excursions.

Communication

- Educators, Students and Volunteers must comply with the CPS SunSmart policy as per the Occupation Health and Safety Act.
- SunSmart activities and sun protection messages will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.
- CPS will outline SunSmart policy and the sun protection strategies of CPS to the parents through the parent handbook and the website. Reminders about the SunSmart policy will be included in whole school newsletters at the start of the year and in August.
- CPS will encourage staff to access on-line training and education from appropriate cancer prevention websites.

Date of approval: 2015	Date of review: 2018
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