



**VERSION:** Version 1.0      **CODE:** Insert Code  
**OWNER:** Tamsin Buckley  
**EFFECTIVE:** January 2023      **REVIEW:** January 2025

# Sun Safety Policy

## 1. SCOPE:

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.

## 2. PURPOSE:

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.

## 3. POLICY:

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
<b>Clothing requirements</b>	<p>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:</p> <p><b>Hats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 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.</li><li>• Our school uniform hats are broad-brimmed hats.</li><li>• Staff remind students to wear hats before and during lunch breaks, and to and from outdoor activities.</li></ul>

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students who do not have hats will be in an area protected from the sun.</li> <li>• Spare clean school hats are available for students from sectors to borrow or they can stay indoors if they forget their hat.</li> </ul> <p><b>Swim shirts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul>
<b>Shade provision and use</b>	<p>Our school maximises the use of available shade for outdoor activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Temporary shade structures are used as necessary for outdoor events, for example, Sports Day, Cross Country.</li> </ul>
<b>Education</b>	<p>Our school provides educational programs on sun safety and preventative measures through the following strategies:</p> <p><b>Curriculum, teaching and learning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sun safety is formally taught as part of the implementation of the Australian Curriculum through Health and Physical Education</li> </ul> <p><b>Incidental teaching and promoting sun safe behaviours</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• 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.</li> </ul> <p><b>Staff professional development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff are informed about the school’s sun safety policy and its requirements on induction.</li> </ul>
<b>Sunscreen provision</b>	<p>Our school recognises the importance of sunscreen use as a sun safe measure and implements the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school supplies SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for student use.</li> </ul>
<b>Modelling sun safe behaviours</b>	<p>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:</p>

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff are encouraged to consider the use of shade, sun safe hats and clothing, sunglasses and sunscreen when doing their duties and running outside activities.</li> </ul>
<b>Cost considerations</b>	<p>The department provides funding for sun safety using the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• School funding is allocated annually to enable the purchase of sunscreen for student use for the whole school year.</li> </ul>
<b>Additional strategies</b>	<p>Other strategies our school uses to be sun safe include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sunscreen stations are set up at sports days and swimming carnivals.</li> <li>• The pool is not used between 11.30am and 1.30pm.</li> </ul>

#### 4. RELATED POLICIES OR PROCEDURES:

- Sun safety in schools <https://ppr.qed.qld.gov.au/attachment/Sun-safety-in-state-school-procedure.pdf>
- Managing risks in school curriculum activities procedure
- Requests for Voluntary Financial Contributions procedure
- Student dress code procedure
- Sun protection strategy for schools - Queensland Health
- Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Qld)
- Sun Safety - Queensland Government