



“We flourish as engaged bilingual global citizens who can face challenges as critical, creative thinkers. Our exemplary holistic education promotes a lifelong love of learning.”

SUNSMART POLICY



HELP FOR NON-ENGLISH SPEAKERS

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office.

RATIONALE

The sun’s ultraviolet (UV) radiation can’t be seen or felt. Whatever the weather, it’s important for people of all skin types to use sun protection whenever UV levels are three or higher.

By teaching sensible sun protection habits from an early age and implementing sun protection measures, schools can play a significant role in reducing skin cancer risk.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to encourage behaviours at Camberwell Primary School to minimise the risk of skin and eye damage and skin cancer.

This policy provides guidelines to:

- support staff and students to use a combination of sun protection measures when UV index levels are 3 or above (generally mid-August – end of April)
- ensure that there are outdoor environments that provide adequate shade for students and staff
- ensure students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills to help them to be responsible for their own protection
- support our school’s strategies to meet its duty of care and occupational health and safety obligations to minimise harmful UV exposure and associated harm for students and staff.

SCOPE

This policy applies to all school activities, including camps and excursions. It is applicable to all students and staff.

POLICY

Excessive exposure to the sun’s ultraviolet (UV) radiation can cause health problems including sunburn, damage to skin and eyes, and an increased risk of skin cancer.

UV radiation:

- cannot be seen or felt
- can be reflected off surfaces such as buildings, asphalt, concrete, water, sand and snow

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- can pass through light clouds
- varies in intensity across the year (highest in Victoria from September - April)
- peaks during school hours

Sun safety is a shared responsibility and staff, parents and students are encouraged to implement a combination of sun protection measures whenever UV levels reach 3 and above (typically from mid-August to the end of April in Victoria). Information about the daily local sun protection times is available via the SunSmart widget on the school’s website, the free SunSmart app or at www.sunsmart.com.au or bom.gov.au

Camberwell Primary School has the following measures in place to help reduce the risk of excessive UV sun exposure for staff and students.

Shade

The school will provide for sufficient options for shelter and trees to provide shade on school grounds, particularly in places such as:

- where students congregate to eat
- outdoor lesson areas
- popular play areas including the adventure playground
- assembly areas
- sports grounds

When building works or grounds maintenance are conducted that may impact on the level of shading available to staff and students, a review of the shaded areas available will be conducted and further shading installed as appropriate.

Sun Protective Uniform/Clothing

Camberwell Primary School recommends that from mid-August to end of April, and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above, students should wear sun-protective clothing such as:

- loose, cool, closely-woven fabric
- shirts with a collar and/or high necklines
- tops with elbow length or long sleeves
- longer style shorts and skirts
- rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming activities.

Camberwell Primary School’s Student Dress Code includes sun protective clothing, including:

- polo shirts with a collar and elbow length or long sleeves
- school dress with a collar and elbow length sleeves
- longer style shorts and skorts
- wide brimmed and bucket-style microfibre hats

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- garments made from loose, cool, closely woven fabric.

In Terms 1 and 4 and on any other days prescribed by the school, all students **must** wear a sun protective hat that shades the face, neck and ears for all outdoor activities. Hats may also be worn for all outdoor activities outside of Terms 1 and 4, by parent or student choice.

Students are required to wear a school hat or another hat style that protects the face, neck and ears when outdoors, for example broad-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket styles. Students who are not wearing appropriate protective clothing or a hat may be asked to play in the shade or in a suitable area protected from the sun.

Staff also will be required to wear a sun protective hat whilst on yard duty in Terms 1 and 4 and are encouraged to wear sun protection outside of Terms 1 and 4.

Sunscreen

Camberwell Primary School encourages all staff and students to apply SPF 30+ (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen daily whenever the UV levels reach 3 and above. Sunscreen should be applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors, and reapplied every two hours according to manufacturer’s instructions.

Parents/carers are encouraged to apply sunscreen to their child prior to the school day and to pack a small sunscreen bottle in their students’ bag for students to reapply throughout the day.

The school has strategies in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors. Teachers provide reminders for students to apply sunscreen prior to outdoor activities and parents/carers are reminded to provide sunscreen for their children through the school newsletter and year level newsletters in Terms 1 and 4.

Staff and students who may suffer from allergic reactions from certain types of sunscreen are encouraged to contact the school nurse.

Staff and families should role model SunSmart behaviour and are encouraged to apply SPF 30+ (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen when outside.

Sunglasses

The school encourages students and staff engaged in outdoor activities to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

Curriculum

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Students are encouraged to make healthy choices, and are supported to understand the benefits and risks of sun exposure. The school will address sun and UV safety education as part of student health and wellbeing programs in Foundation – Year 6.

Staff are encouraged to access resources, tools, and professional learning to enhance their knowledge and capacity to promote sun smart behaviour education across the school community.

COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school’s website
- Included in staff induction processes
- Included in staff handbook/manual
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- DET Policy Advisory Library:
 - [Sun and UV Protection Policy](#)
 - [Duty of care](#)
- [SunSmart](#)
- [Achievement Program’s](#) SunSmart Policy [schools will need to register for the program to gain access to these resources]

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	August 2022
Consultation	CPS School Council meeting- August 2022
Approved by	Principal- Janet Gale
Next scheduled review date	August 2026

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