



Mentone Park Primary School

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Reaching Higher

SUNSMART POLICY

Purpose:

- 1.1 To ensure that all students attending Mentone Park Primary School are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultra-violet rays of the sun.
- 1.2 To increase student and community awareness of skin cancer risks.

Broad Guidelines:

As part of general skin protection strategies:

- 2.1 It is compulsory for students to wear Mentone Park Primary School approved hats for protection whenever they are outside, (e.g. recess, lunch, sport, carnivals, excursions and activities) during Terms 1 and 4, including daylight savings times and encouraged at other times where appropriate.
- 2.2 Students will only be allowed to participate in the Year 5 and 6 Beach Program if they are wearing the appropriate SunSmart attire (including t-shirt or rash vest). The use of sun block is to be encouraged for this activity.
- 2.3 Increase the number of shelters and trees that provide shade in the school grounds over time.
- 2.4 Encourage the use of broad spectrum, non-toxic water resistant sunscreen for staff and students.
- 2.5 Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention into the curriculum.
- 2.6 Encourage parents to apply an 8 hour non-toxic sun block to their child/ren prior to them leaving for school.

Implementation

- 3.1 Reinforce the SunSmart Policy in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.
- 3.2 Encourage students to use available areas of shade for outdoor play activities.
- 3.3 Students who are not wearing hats will be directed to play in the eating area which is protected from the sun.
- 3.4 Schedule outdoor activities before 10.00 a.m. and after 2.00 p.m. (11.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. in summer) whenever possible.
- 3.5 Encourage staff and parents to act as role models by practising SunSmart behaviours.

When enrolling their children, parents will be:

- 3.6 Informed of the SunSmart Policy.

Evaluation

- 4.1 Adequate shade provision will be assessed and provided by Buildings and Grounds Committee of School Council.
- 4.2 Students are wearing hats at the appropriate time.

Reviewed and approved by School Council August 2009