



MORGAN PRIMARY SCHOOL

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Understanding - Care and Compassion - Responsibility - Doing Your Best - Respect

Sun Protection Policy

Rationale

Australia has one of the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world, and at least two in three people will be diagnosed with some form of skin cancer before aged 70. Sun exposure during childhood and adolescence is a critical factor in determining future skin cancer risk.

A balance of ultraviolet (UV) radiation is important for health. Too much of the sun's UV radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Too little UV radiation from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels, which is essential for health. Sensible sun protection when UV is 3 and above does not put people at risk of vitamin D deficiency.

In line with DECD and Cancer Council SA guidelines, this policy is implemented during terms 1, 3 and 4, and when the UV is 3 and above at other times. Staff are encouraged to access the local daily sun protection times via the Sun Smart app, www.myuv.com.au or www.bom.gov.au to assist with implementing this policy.

Aim

The aims of the Sun Protection Policy are to:

- Ensure all students and staff are protected from over-exposure to UV radiation.
- Ensure the outdoor environment provides shade for students and staff.
- Ensure students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills to help them be responsible for their own sun protection.
- Support duty of care requirements.
- Support appropriate WHS strategies to minimise UV risk and associated harms for staff and visitors.

Implementation

Whenever UV is 3 and above the following will be enforced:

- Students will wear broad brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hats that protect face, neck and ears whenever they are outside during the school day. Students who do not have a suitable hat or clothing will play in an area protected from the sun.
- All students and staff to wear sun protection clothing with collars, made from closely woven material, longer sleeves and longer style shorts, skirts and dress that cover as much skin as possible. When swimming all students are to wear a rashie or T-shirt.
- Students will be encouraged to play in shaded areas when playing outdoors. Most of the playground areas are shaded, and outdoor learning area/eating area is under shade.
- Broad spectrum, water resistant SPF30+ sunscreen or higher will be available to all students during swimming, outdoor activities, excursions, camps and outdoor classroom activities. It will be applied on clean and dry skin 20 minutes before going outdoors and re-applied every two hours if outside for an extended period. Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.
- As part of WHS UV risk controls and role modelling, teachers and staff will wear sun protective hats, clothing and sunglasses, and apply SPF30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen, and where possible, seek shade when outdoors. Parents and visitors will also be encouraged to be Sun Smart when attending school activities.
- Promote a Sun Smart lifestyle through newsletters, website, Facebook and classroom notices.
- Students will learn sun protective behaviours in classrooms.
- During May, June & July, when UV is normally below 3, this policy will be relaxed for vitamin D exposure

Policy Review dated: May 2018

Next Review: May 2021