

WOONGARRAH PUBLIC SCHOOL

Policy Statement



Sun Protection

Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world, with two in three Australians developing some form of skin cancer during their lifetime. Overexposure to the sun during childhood and adolescence is known to be a major cause of skin cancer.

The goals of the sun protection statement/action plan are to:

- Increase student and community awareness about skin cancer and sun protection
- Encourage the entire school community to use sun protection measures
- Ensure a safe school environment that provides shade for students, staff and others
- Assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection

Our sun protection strategies are as follows:

Scheduling outdoor activities

Where possible, we will schedule outdoor activities outside peak UV times of 10am – 2pm (11am – 3pm daylight saving time) and plan activities to take place in the shade or indoor areas. We will consider sun protection when planning all outdoor events e.g. assemblies, camps, excursions, and sporting events. Where possible, we have outdoor activities or events earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon, or we try using indoor venues.

Shade

We are committed to providing shade in the school grounds particularly in outdoor lesson areas and popular play areas. Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside. The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all other outdoor activities.

Hats

Students are to wear a broad brimmed school hat whenever they are outside. Students who do not have sun safe hats are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

Clothing

Sun safe clothing is included in our school uniform and sports uniform. School clothing is made of close weave fabric and includes shirts with collars (or covered necklines) and longer sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts

Sunscreen

The use of sunscreen is encouraged for staff and student use. Staff will remind children to apply sunscreen before recess, lunch and going outside.

Staff

Staff will be requested to model good sun protection behaviours by wearing sun safe hats, clothing and sunglasses when outside

Curriculum

Teachers include skin cancer prevention principles across all year levels within the PDHPE Key Learning Area.

Sunglasses (optional)

Students and staff are encouraged to wear close fitting, wrap around sunglasses that cover as much of the eye area as possible and meet the Australian Standard 1067

Review

Date of last review - February 2013.