

**NARACOORTE SOUTH PRIMARY SCHOOL
SUN PROTECTION POLICY**



This policy takes affect:

Throughout Term 1, 3 and 4 and whenever the UV rating is 3 and above at other times. Sun protection is not necessary when the UV is below 3 during Term 2. During Term 2, Staff and Students are encouraged to seek sun for Vitamin D, provided the UV is below 3. Sensible sun protection when the UV is 3 and above does not put people at risk of Vitamin D deficiency. Staff are encouraged to access the daily sun protection times on the Sun Smart app or www.myuv.com.au to assist with implementing this policy.

The purposes of this policy are:

1. To ensure that all staff and children attending our school are protected from skin damage caused by overexposure to harmful ultra-violet rays of the sun but are also able to get healthy sun exposure for Vitamin D when the UV is below 3.
2. To ensure children learn to become responsible for their own protection so that it becomes a life-style choice.

As part of General Skin Strategies

1. Children will wear broad-brimmed or legionnaires-styled hats which protect the face, neck and ears whenever outside. This has been a compulsory part of the school uniform from July 1996. Baseball caps are not acceptable.
2. Children who do not have their hats with them will play in an area protected from the sun, i.e. the verandahs around the school.
3. Teachers will attempt to reschedule outdoor activities outside of the peak UV times of the day or in shaded areas where possible.
4. Teachers will consider a combination of skin protection measures when planning outdoor events (e.g. camps, excursions, sporting activities and swimming carnivals). For Work Health and Safety, it is expected that staff will act as role models by practising Sun Smart behaviour, such as,
 - Wearing protective hats and appropriate clothing for outdoor activities.
 - Using a SPF 30+, water-resistant sunscreen for skin protection.
 - Seeking shade whenever possible.

Our school will

1. Maintain a compulsory school uniform policy which includes hats that are appropriate and satisfies Cancer Council UV protective guidelines. This includes tops with collars and longer style sleeves and longer style shorts, dresses and skirts. Students are encouraged to wear rash tops or t-shirts over bathers for outdoor water-based activities. Children not wearing appropriate sun protective clothing will be asked to play in an area protected from the sun i.e. the verandahs around the school.

2. Attempt to provide adequate shade for outdoor activities. Children will be encouraged to use available shade during recess and lunch times.
3. Encourage the Special Projects Committee to look at providing more shelter areas and shade trees and to monitor the shade available.
4. Provide SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for staff and students to use and to encourage children to learn responsible action to use sunscreen before going outside. Sunscreen will be applied 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours when outdoors.
5. Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention in the curriculum for at least every second year.
6. Reinforce regularly the Sun Protection Policy in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, and student and teacher activities.

When enrolling a Child, Parents Will Be:

Made aware of our school's Sun Protection Policy and Uniform Policy as part of their enrolment package.

Encouraged to role model SunSmart behaviours when participating or attending outdoor activities with the school.

The sun protection policy will be reviewed regularly (at least every three years) to ensure information remains current and relevant. The school will submit the sun protection policy to the SunSmart team every three years for review to maintain SunSmart status.

- **Policy dated:** August 2018. **Next Review:** August 2023

