



SUNSMART POLICY

Purpose:

This Sun Smart policy has been developed to:

- create healthy environments and encourage appropriate behaviours to allow some UV exposure for vitamin D and minimize overexposure to reduce skin and eye damage and skin cancer risk.
- encourage behavior change through education and role-modelling.
- protect staff and students from harm caused by overexposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation.

Implementation:

As part of general Sun Smart strategies, our school will enforce the wearing of appropriate uniforms as outlined in the KPS Uniform Policy and promote healthy levels of exposure to UV radiation by following the guidelines published by the Victorian Department of Education and Training.

As part of promoting positive behaviours the following will be in place:

From May to August

The wearing of hats will not be compulsory as vitamin D levels need to be maintained, most people need two to three hours of midday winter sun exposure across the week to help with vitamin D levels. Sun protection is not normally needed unless the UV levels reach 3 and above

From September to April

The following guidelines will be in place as the average UV levels in Victoria are above 3 at this time of year.

1. The wearing of Kananook royal blue bucket hats whenever children are outside (eg recess, lunch, sport, excursions). These hats are to remain at school at all times.
2. Permission for students to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2,3 or 4) and that cover as much of the eye area as possible if they wish. These must be Kananook approved.
3. The application of sunscreen before school and prior to the lunch break.
4. Encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures when UV index levels reach 3 or above.
5. Encourage parents to provide SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for their child.

6. Provide SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen in each classroom and at the office. Teachers will remind children to reapply before going outside and children should apply their own sunscreen.
7. Launder hats at school's expense at the end of Term 1, the end of April, the end of Term 3 and the end of December.
8. Schedule outdoor activities to be held in areas with plenty of shade whenever possible.
9. Engage students to help monitor UV alerts and to possibly report daily on the sun protection times. (Sunsmart app on KPS Website)

Most people still require some mid-morning or mid-afternoon sun exposure on most days of the week at this time of year to help with vitamin D levels.

As part of the school's programs we will:

- incorporate programs on skin cancer and prevention and benefits of Vitamin D into the curriculum at all class levels
- regularly reinforce Sun Smart behavior in a positive way through newsletters, assemblies, website information, parent meetings, student and teacher activities
- provide links on the website to the UV alert widget and Sunsmart app.
- consider the Sunsmart Policy in the planning of all outdoor events (e.g. camps, excursions, sporting events).
- Promote the Sunsmart Policy on the website and provide information at enrolment.
- Assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection.
- Ensure students continue to abide by the Uniform Policy guidelines during special events, casual dress days, excursions, camps etc by wearing suitable clothing that covers the shoulders and midriffs.

As part of the Kananook Environment we will:

- include sun protective clothing items as part of our school uniform
- organise outdoor activities to be held in areas with plenty of shade whenever possible
- continue to increase the number of shelters and trees so as to provide adequate shade in the school grounds.
- Consider the availability of shade when planning excursions and outdoor activities
- Complete a periodic shade audit to determine the availability and quality of shade (section 8.5.5 Shade Areas in Building Quality Standards Handbook)

As part of the Kananook staff's responsibilities as role models when the UV index is 3 and above, staff are encouraged to:

- wear sun-protective hats, clothing and sunglasses for all outdoor activities and duties
- apply SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen
- seek shade whenever possible.

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Approved By	School Council
Approval Authority (Signature & Date)	
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Responsible for Review	Principal
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References	DEECD