



PORT AUGUSTA SPECIAL SCHOOL

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Sun Smart Policy

Purpose

The purpose of the Port Augusta Special School **Sun Protection Policy** is to promote among children, staff and parents:

- ⇒ Positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- ⇒ Lifestyle practices which can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and the number of related deaths.
- ⇒ Personal responsibility for and decision making about skin protection.
- ⇒ Awareness of the need for environmental changes in our school to reduce the level of exposure to the sun.

Implementation

This policy is for implementation throughout the school year.
Sun protection is required whenever the ultraviolet radiation level is 3 (moderate) and above, as this is when the UV level is strong enough to damage skin and eyes.

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that all members of our school are protected from skin damage caused by overexposure to the UV rays of the sun.

It is an expectation that all staff, students and parents of Port Augusta Special School will use the following sun protection strategies:

1. Take particular care if in the sun during the peak UV times of the day and when the ultraviolet radiation level is 3 (moderate) and above, outside of these times.

1.1 Where possible, outdoor activity sessions will be held in shaded areas.

1.2 Whenever possible, all outdoor activities programs (where applicable), will be scheduled before or after the peak UV times of the day, conducted indoors, or in the shaded areas of the school.

1.3 If the forecast temperature for any given school day is above 37° a risk assessment will be done and based on that risk assessment students will be supervised indoors at playtime.

Leadership will advise staff of play arrangements.

2. Use the shade of trees, pergolas, umbrellas and tents whenever outdoors.

2.1 Tree planting will be organised at the school.

2.2 The further provision of shaded areas will appear as a priority on any forward planning documents for the school.

2.3 Children are encouraged to play in shaded areas of the school during break times.

3. Wear appropriate clothing that protects the skin.

3.1 Students, staff and parents will be expected to wear an approved broadbrim hat, legionnaire style hat, or a bucket hat whenever they are involved in outside activities, including excursions. Children not wearing an

appropriate hat or refuse to wear sunscreen will be directed to play in the shade at recess and lunch times.

3.2 Students will be encouraged to wear shirts with collars and at least elbow length sleeves and longer style shorts/skirts. T-shirts must be worn for swimming / aquatics with a recommendation for “sun-smart” tops as an alternative.

4. When the UV is 3 and above, students will be encouraged to apply a broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen with an SPF of 30+ (or higher), to clean, dry skin approximately 20 min before going outdoors for lunch, recess or curriculum activities and reapply every 2 hours when outdoors.

⇒ Permission will be sought from parents/carers for staff to apply sunscreen for those students unable to apply it themselves.

4.1 Adequate time will be allowed for students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.

4.2 Parents will be encouraged to supply sunscreen for their children, although there will be bulk sunscreen packs available in all classrooms.

4.3 Sunscreen application will be encouraged before going out to lunch, recess or any outdoor activity during the school day.

5. Reinforcing the SunSmart message in all school activities and in general school procedures is an important strategy in the adoption of the sun protection behaviours.

5.1 **Staff will be expected to role model appropriate SunSmart strategies in all school activities.** Parents are encouraged to role model sun protection when involved in outdoor activities at the school.

5.2 Skin cancer prevention will be included in the curriculum at each year level.

5.3 Staff will be encouraged to keep up to date with new information and resources through contact with the Cancer Council SA.

5.4 Information about the school’s SunSmart Policy will be given to all new staff, students and families and be placed on the school website.

6. The Port Augusta Special School Sun Protection Policy will be reviewed each year with input from staff and Governing Council.

6.1 Policy issues / modifications will be discussed at staff meetings and Governing Council meetings.

Review December 2018