



SUN SMART POLICY 2025-2028

WANNIASSA SCHOOL

Introduction

Wanniassa School is committed to ensuring the safety and wellbeing of all students and staff. This document seeks to provide guidelines to minimize the adverse effects of UV exposure by encouraging students, staff and community members to observe safe, SunSmart behaviours. SunSmart practices are incorporated into all Wanniassa School programs and procedures.

Rational

Our school aims to protect students and staff, as far as reasonably practicable, from the dangers associated with over-exposure to the sun's UV. Sun UV protection is recommended at all ages and a balance of UV exposure is important for health. Too much of the sun's UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Too little UV from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels. UV protection is required when UV levels reach 3 or above. UV levels in Canberra typically reach 3 or higher for part or most of each day throughout the year. Sensible sun protection practices should be followed whenever spending extended periods outdoors, regardless of the time of year or the UV level. Even when UV levels are below 3, prolonged exposure to the sun can still lead to UV damage, so it is important to take protective measures whenever outdoors for extended periods.

Protective Clothing & Shade Provision

- All P-6 students are required to wear SunSmart hats when they are outside. A SunSmart hat is a broad-brimmed hat, bucket hat, or legionnaire's cap.
- All 7-10 students will be encouraged to wear SunSmart hats when they are outside.
- K-6 Students who do not wear a SunSmart hat during play times will be directed to the covered outdoor learning area (COLA) on the Junior Campus. Preschool students will be provided with a spare hat for the day.
- Due to the dangers of choking associated with the cords on some hats, the school requests that these cords are removed from P-6 student hats unless they have a quick release function.
- In the interest of hygiene, spare hats are not available K-10 for loan.
- All uniform items are SunSmart, uniform is required across P-10. On days where uniform is optional (carnivals, free dress days, camps) all tops worn at school require sleeves. K-6 students will be required to play in the shade if their clothing is not sun smart.
- All staff are encouraged to wear protective clothing when outside in the sun and to act as good role models.
- All students and staff are strongly encouraged to wear a t-shirt or rash vest when swimming at an outdoor swimming carnival. Note tops with sleeves are required as noted above. Sunscreen will be provided by the school to all students and staff at outdoor events, camps and carnivals.

Sunscreen

- SPF50+ broad-Spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen is available in preschool classrooms, and units on Junior Campus, and Student Services, PE staffroom and the front office on Senior Campus.
- Sunscreen will be provided by the school to all students and staff at all off-site outdoor events, camps and carnivals.
- Parents are encouraged to ensure students have applied SPF50+ broad-Spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen, on skin not protected by clothing, before school. Students are encouraged to bring sunscreen to school for re application.
- Children are supervised by the preschool staff when applying sunscreen at preschool.
- Students are given reminders to apply sunscreen prior to lunch break and outdoor activities during peak UV period of the day to ensure it provides adequate protection.
- If a child is allergic to sunscreen parents must notify the school via the medical form completed at the beginning of each year.

Outdoor Activities

- The preschool outdoor program is adapted in accordance with the weather.
- Outdoor activities will be in the shade wherever possible during days of high or extreme UV and where possible occur outside the peak hours (10am – 2pm EST, 11am – 3pm Daylight Saving Time).

Education, Communication and Evaluation

- Parents will be informed of the Sun Protection Procedures when they enrol their child at Wanniasa School.
- This policy is available online via the Wanniasa School website and upon request from Junior or Senior campus reception.
- Sun protection procedures are conveyed to new staff commencing at Wanniasa school and relief teachers at the commencement of employment.
- Where a student is not engaging with SunSmart procedures the school will communicate with a parent/carer via a phone call or note home.
- During school sports carnivals or other outdoor activities that may involve volunteers/visitors, the school will inform the visitors of our sun protection procedures and encourage them to act as good role models by adopting SunSmart behaviour.
- The school will review the Sun Protection Procedures regularly to ensure it complies with any new guidelines that may be published by the ACT Government Education Directorate or by the ACT Cancer Council.

Professional Learning

Teachers and support staff who are responsible for supervising preschool to year 6 students outdoors and high school PE teachers will complete the Cancer Council SunSmart Professional Learning Online Modules.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

The principal is responsible for the development of this procedure and to ensure positive reinforcement of the procedure occurs through regular reminders, for example via the school's Facebook page, newsletters, information nights and other communication channels.

Any concerns about the application of this policy or the policy itself, should be raised with:

- the school in the first instance.
- the Directorate's Liaison Unit on (02) 6205 5429.
- online at http://www.education.act.gov.au/contact_us;

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Related Legislation

[Human Rights Act 2004](#)

[Work Health and Safety Act 2011](#)

Related Policy

Sun UV Protection for Students (ACT Education Directorate) 2015

Wanniassa School Uniform Policy 2022