

Settlers Primary School

Sun Protection Policy



Independent Public School

Policy Statement

Our Sun Protection Policy has been developed to ensure that all students, staff, parents and visitors attending Settlers Primary School are aware of and minimize their risk of skin damage caused by harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun.

To support our Sun Protection Policy, Settlers Primary School has installed a UV Meter in a prominent position in the centre of the school. This informs staff and students of the UV index throughout the school day along with the corresponding recommendations for Sun Protection.

Background

Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to ultraviolet radiation (UV) from the sun. UV damage begins to accumulate during childhood and adolescence and is associated with an increased risk of skin cancer later in life. As students and staff are at school during times of peak UV radiation, schools play a major role in providing an environment that minimises exposure and encourages long-term sun protective behaviours.

Procedures

- We require students to wear a broad-brimmed, bucket style hat that protects the face, neck, ears and crown of the head whenever they are outside.
- Cool, loose-fitting sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform / dress code and sports uniform. It includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, and longer dresses and shorts.
- Students are permitted to wear sunglasses when participating in outdoor activities.
- Students who do not have appropriate hats or sun protective clothing are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.
- Shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- To support health and safety legislation, staff are required to wear sun protective hats when supervising students.
- We encourage parents and visitors to wear broad-brimmed, bucket style hats when participating in and attending outdoor school activities.
- SPF 30+ Sunscreen is available and accessible to staff and students in classrooms and around the school grounds.
- Programs on sun protection are included in the curriculum for all year levels.
- To promote and reinforce sun smart behaviour, the school will maintain its UV meter displaying the current UV index and recommendations for appropriate action.

