



St John Vianney's PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sunsmart Policy

Introduction

In keeping with the mission statement, to empower, share and live the gospel within all aspects of school life, the school community at St John Vianney's School, recognises the need to have a Sunsmart Policy.

Rationale

St John Vianney's Primary School realises the need to protect children's skin and educate them about Sunsmart behaviour, thus reducing the risk of skin damage from exposure to the sun.

The policy aims to:

- provide ongoing education that promotes personal responsibility for skin cancer prevention and early detection
- provide environments that support Sunsmart practices
- create an awareness of the need to reschedule work commitments and outdoor activities to support Sunsmart practices.

Policy Statement

At St John Vianney's Primary School we seek to educate all students and staff regarding sun safety. We will work in partnership with parents, specialist staff and Archdiocesan authorities, to ensure school procedures relating to sun safety and sunsmart education are priorities. The school will commit to responsible and achievable management practices in reducing any foreseeable risks associated with the harmful effects of sun throughout the year

Guidelines for Implementation & Risk Management

- Inform parents of the Sunsmart policy when they enrol their child
- Include the Sunsmart policy statement in the school prospectus
- Increase the amount of shade in the school grounds, where possible, by building shelters and planting trees
- Incorporate education programs from Prep to Year 7 that focus on skin cancer prevention into the school curriculum
- Staff, families and visitors to the school are encouraged to act as role models by practising SunSmart behaviours

- Seek ongoing support from parents and the school community for the Sunsmart policy and its implementation, through newsletters, parent meetings etc.
- Ensure that all pupils wear hats that protect the face, neck and ears, and SPF 30 or higher, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen, when involved in outdoor activities
- Ensure that pupil's clothing provides adequate protection from UV radiation. The Qld cancer fund recommends natural fibres, dark colours, collars and sleeves and closely woven fabrics.
- Fabric sun safe figures and information regarding fabric sun safe ratings, are available for parents
- Insist pupils without adequate sun protection to use shaded or covered areas at recess and lunch times
- Wherever practicable, outdoor activities will take place before 10:00 a.m. or after 3:00 p.m. (Australian Eastern Standard Time ~AEST)
- Teachers do random hat checks – to check hat is at school and in good repair
- Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and other outdoor events
- The use of wrap-around sunglasses that meet Australian Standard AS/NZS 1067:2003 is encouraged
- Review the Sunsmart policy annually.
- Encourage water intake
- Students in outside school hours care will observe the Sunsmart School Policy
- Staff are encouraged to access the daily SunSmart UV Alert at sunsmart.com.au (or their own service website). WHSO advises via whiteboard in staffroom.

Reviewed October 2013