



## **Burraneer Bay Public School - SunSmart Policy**

This policy applies to all school events on and off-site.

### **Purpose**

This SunSmart policy provides guidelines to:  
Ensure all students and staff are protected from over-exposure to UV radiation;

- Ensure the outdoor environment provides shade for students and staff;
- Ensure students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills to help them be responsible for their own protection;
- Support duty of care requirements; and
- Support appropriate OHS strategies to minimize UV risk and associated harm for staff and visitors.

### **Rationale**

Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world. Two out of three Australians develop some form of skin cancer before the age of 70. Too much of the sun's UV radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Sun exposure in the first 10 years of life is a major factor in determining future skin cancer risk. Therefore, it is evident that most skin damage and skin cancers are preventable.

At Burraneer Bay Public School we are committed to reducing the incidence of sunburn, skin damage and skin cancers through educating our community about effective skin protection measures and encouraging our community to input these.

### **Procedures**

To assist with the implementation of this policy, staff and students are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times via [sunsmart.com.au](http://sunsmart.com.au).



- The sun protection measures listed are used for all outdoor activities during the **daily local sun protection times**.

The sun protection times are a forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology for the times of day UV levels are forecast to reach 3 or higher. At these levels, sun protection is recommended for all skin types.

### **1. Seek shade**

- The school makes sure there are sufficient shelters and trees providing shade in outdoor areas particularly in high-use areas e.g. where students have lunch, canteen, assemblies, sport, outdoor lessons and popular play spaces.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning all other outdoor activities. Shade should be considered when completing risk assessments.
- Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.
- Students who do not have appropriate hats or outdoor clothing are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.
- Shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds.
- A shade assessment is conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade.

### **2. Slip on sun protective clothing**

- Cool, loose-fitting, sun protective clothing made of densely woven fabric is included in our school uniform/dress code and sports uniform. It includes shirts with collars and elbow-length sleeves, rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.

### 3. Slap on a hat

- All students are required to wear broad brim hats that protect their face, ears and neck. This will be implemented over a two year period commencing January 2018.
- If a student does not have a hat, they are directed to play in shaded areas only.

### 4. Slop on sunscreen

- Students are encouraged to come to school with SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen already applied.
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before and during outdoor school events.

### Learning and skills

- Programs on sun protection are included in the curriculum for all year levels.

### Engaging children, educators, staff and families

- Sunsmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school homepage, facebook, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and on student enrolment.
- As part of OHS UV risk controls and role-modeling, staff, families and visitors are encouraged to:
  - wear a sun protective hat and if practical, sunglasses;
  - apply sunscreen; and
  - seek shade whenever possible.

### Monitoring and review

- The school staff regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of the SunSmart policy (at least once every two years) and revise the policy when required.

- Burraneer Bay Public School has developed a SunSmart committee consisting of; Nadine Bishop, Kimberley Parsons and Carrie Roach. This committee will be responsible for ensuring the policy is implemented effectively.

### Staff Responsibilities

Staff will be expected to role model effective SunSmart practices by:

- Wearing sun safe clothings including a hat and appropriate clothing for all outdoor activities and playground duties.
- Using a SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for skin protection.
- Seek shade whenever possible and appropriate.