**SUN SMART POLICY**

Skin cancer is one of the most common forms of cancer in Australia, with at least two in three people diagnosed with some form of skin cancer before aged 70. Melanoma, the most dangerous form of skin cancer is also the most common cancer in Australians aged 12-24 years. Sun exposure during childhood and adolescence is a critical factor in determining future skin cancer risk.

* The principal cause of skin cancer is over-exposure to ultraviolet radiation, which can damage the skin at a level of 3 and above. Therefore many skin cancers can be prevented by adequately protecting the skin from overexposure to UV radiation, in the following ways: **Slip on sun protective clothing**- long sleeved shirts with higher necklines or collars and longer style trousers, shorts and skirts provide excellent protection to arms, shoulders and legs.
* **Slop** **on SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant** **sunscreen** to protect the face and hands and other exposed parts of the skin 20 minutes before going outdoor. Reapply every 2 hours if outside for extended periods.
* **Slap on a shady hat** – to protect the face, ears and neck.
* **Seek shade** – Use shade as much as possible when you are outdoors
* **Slide on sunglasses** – use sunglasses with and Eye Protection Factor (EPF) of 10 or category 2,3 or 4 and meet Australian Standard AS/NZS 1067:2016.

**STUDENTS:**

* Are encouraged to take appropriate measures to protect themselves from overexposure to ultraviolet radiation.
* Are required to wear a legionnaire hat as per the school uniform all year round. Caps are not a suitable form of sun protection,
* Apply SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen supplied by the school 20 minutes before going outdoors, and reapply every 2 hours if outside for extended periods
* Are required to wear the school uniform that includes shirts with collars and longer style sleeves, and longer style shorts and skirts and rash tops or t-shirts over bathers for outdoor water activities
* Students not wearing sun protective clothing and hat will be required to play in an area protected from the sun.
* From 1 August until 30 April all staff and students need to be ‘SunSmart’ even though the ambient temperature may not be ‘hot’. The UV radiation levels are 3 and above every day during this time and can also rise above 3 in May, June and July

**STAFF:**

* Are required to take appropriate measures to protect themselves from exposure to ultraviolet radiation including wearing sun protective clothing, hat, sunglasses(optional) and SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen when outdoors, as part of good role modelling and WHS
* Are required to wear a broad-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hat or carry an umbrella while out on yard duty or conducting lessons outside
* Ensure students apply SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors, and is reapplied every 2 hours if outside for extended periods
* Encourage students to seek shade
* Consider the availability of shade when planning outdoor events, activities, excursions and lessons.
* Consider scheduling outdoor activities outside of the peak UV times of the day,
* If there is no natural shade or shade structures available, it can be created by erecting an umbrella or some other canopy to work under.
* Sun protection is integrated into the curriculum at all year levels activities.

**FAMILIES AND VISITORS:**

* Are required to role model sun protection practices whilst attending or participating in school events or activities.
* Request that parents provide a suitable sunscreen for those children who are unable to use the school Sunscreen.

For further information on sun protection and skin cancer please visit sunsmart.org.au

In line with DECD and Cancer Council SA guidelines, and the school’s SunSmart status, Wandana Preschool – Year 7 uses a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor **activities from 1 August to 30 April, and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above at other times**. When the UV radiation is below 3 this is a good time for safe sun exposure for vitamin D - Sensible sun protection when the UV is 3 and above does not put people at vitamin D deficiency.

This policy applies to all activities on and off site. Staff are encouraged to access the daily sun protection times via the SunSmart app, [www.myuv.com.au](http://www.myuv.com.au) or [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au) to assist with implementing this policy.

The sun protection policy and procedures will be communicated to staff, parents and students via the school website, parent and staff handbooks, newsletters, displays, assemblies or other.

**POLICY REVIEW:**

* Policy dated: February 2021
* Next review date: February 2024
* GC Endorsement: 24/2/2021