



Rationale

Year-round sun protection is important for all children and young people in Queensland as research demonstrates that high ultraviolet radiation (UVR) exposure in childhood and adolescence significantly increases the risk of developing skin cancer.

At Sunshine Beach State High, we aim to educate our students about being sun safe in order to develop important, life-long, healthy habits and acknowledge the important role adults play, during school or outside school hours, to reinforce sun safety with children and young people.

In implementing this policy, our school and community recognise that:

- the policy applies to all school and school-related activities and events;
- the strategies are to be implemented during the whole school day and year-round; and
- a combination of sun safe strategies is more effective than a single approach.




Date of commencement: March 2022

Review date: March 2023 (reviewed at least annually)

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
Clothing requirements	<p>Students are required to wear protective clothing, including appropriate hats, when outdoors during the school day and during school-related activities (for example, excursions/camps) to reduce students' exposure to the sun, including the following strategies:</p> <p>Hats</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Students are required to wear appropriate hats when outdoors. The only exceptions when playing sport are when a hat reduces visibility or interferes with activity skills and therefore poses a risk to students' safety; or when wearing a hat is not possible because other headwear is required to be worn for religious or safety reasons. <p>Under these circumstances, students may remove their hats for the duration of the activity, or wear a school / sport cap, ensuring they have applied sunscreen to uncovered skin (ideally 20 minutes) prior to participating.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Our school uniform hats are broad-brimmed, bucket hats and our school uniform caps and sport caps are peak caps.• Staff remind students to wear hats before and during lunch breaks, and to and from outdoor activities.• Staff remind students who do not have hats to play in the shade or an area protected from the sun.• Spare clean school hats are available for students to borrow from HoY's if they forget their hat.• Sunscreen is provided if a student does not have a suitable hat to wear.

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	<p>Swim shirts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are required to wear swim shirts/rash vests during all water-based activities occurring at outdoor venues, except during their race/s at competitions and carnivals. <p>Sunglasses</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students are permitted to wear sunglasses at school for outdoor activities providing that they are appropriate for the activity, securely fitted and do not pose a risk to student safety during the activity. Sunglasses should be wrap-around and meet the Australian/New Zealand Standard AS/NZS 1067.1:2016 Eye and face protection - sunglasses and fashion spectacles requirements. Wearing sunglasses that meet the Standard's requirements for effective sunglasses ensures the eyes have adequate protection against UVR damage. Refer to https://www.sunsmart.com.au/downloads/resources/info-sheets/sunglasses-info-sheet.pdf Students need to be responsible for their own glasses and recognise that the school is not responsible for theft or damage.
<p>Shade provision and use</p>	<p>Our school maximises the use of available shade for outdoor activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Students have access to the undercover Basketball Courts during lunch breaks and the Student Centre is available for indoor sport training at 1st break and other times by arrangement. Temporary shade structures are used as necessary for outdoor events, for example, Year 7 Activities Day, School Cross Country and Athletics Carnivals, Interschool Sport Finals Days, and School Surfing Carnivals.
<p>Education</p>	<p>Our school provides educational programs on sun safety and preventative measures through the following strategies:</p> <p>Curriculum, teaching and learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sun safety is formally taught as part of the implementation of the Australian Curriculum through Health and Physical Education Staff include the risk of exposure to UVR in their curriculum activity risk assessments for outdoor activities, which includes ensuring that adequate shade is available for outdoor activities where possible, for example, using temporary shade structures. <p>Incidental teaching and promoting sun safe behaviours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Incidental teaching of personal sun safety strategies occurs in all year levels as part of the school routine on a regular basis, for example, through reminders to students to wear hats and apply sunscreen. <p>Staff professional development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff are informed about the school's sun safety policy and its requirements on induction and via our staff handbook – 'The Sunshine Way'.
<p>Sunscreen provision</p>	<p>Our school recognises the importance of sunscreen use as a sun safe measure and implements the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The school supplies SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for student use.

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parents/carers are encouraged through social media and newsletter items to have their children apply sunscreen before school. Parents/carers are encouraged to provide sunscreen for their child if they don't wish their child to use the school's sunscreen.
Modelling sun safe behaviours	<p>Our school promotes the importance of parents/carers, teachers, ancillary staff, volunteers and other adult supervisors as role models for students using the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Staff and P&C members are encouraged to consider the use of shade, sun safe hats and clothing, sunglasses and sunscreen when doing their playground duties, running outside activities, and when on excursions/camps. Parents/carers are encouraged to have their children apply sunscreen before they come to school and/or provide personal sunscreen for their children to use at school, if they don't wish their child to use the school's sunscreen.
Cost considerations	<p>The department provides funding for sun safety using the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> School funding is allocated annually to enable the purchase of sunscreen for staff and student use for the whole school year. School allocates sunscreen to Staffrooms and curriculum areas so that sunscreen is accessible at all times.
Additional strategies	<p>Other strategies our school uses to be sun safe include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunscreen stations are set up at school carnivals in addition to providing extra sunscreen for house co-ordinators. Sunscreen is made available to HPE / Sport teachers to take to their outdoor lessons and off campus outdoor activities / sport. The school uses social media and school newsletters to remind students and parents about upcoming events and activities and includes sun safety messages where appropriate. Prior to whole school carnivals, students are reminded of school sun safety policy and sun safe strategies at house parades and via student notices. School and P&C consider Sun Safe Policy when reviewing and or making any changes to current School Uniform Policy. Connections classes and year level assemblies can be used to deliver sun safety information to students as required.

<p>Endorsed by:</p>  <p>Kevin Hutton: School Council Chair</p>  <p>Kim Beckinsale Staff representative</p>	<p>Approved by:</p>  <p>Grant Williams Principal</p> <p>Date of approval: 24/02/2022</p>
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