

# YARRA ROAD PS

# SUN SMART

## POLICY

Yarra Road Primary School is committed to implementing a culture of child safety, inclusive of all school environments, in and outside of school hours and practices zero tolerance of child abuse.

### **Aims:**

To ensure that all members of the Yarra Road Primary School Community are aware of, and encouraged to implement, practices to minimise the risk of skin and eye damage from exposure to the Sun.

To use a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities from the beginning of September to the end of April and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above (the level that can damage skin and eyes).

### **Implementation:**

#### **Behaviour:**

Staff and families are encouraged to access the SunSmart UV Alert following the link on our school website and in our school newsletter to find out daily local sun protection times to assist with the implementation of this policy.

During times of high UV children and staff are expected to wear wide brimmed hats which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside (e.g. recess, lunch, sport, outdoor learning, excursions).

Students who do not have appropriate hats must play in the shade of the oak trees in the courtyard or under the shade sails at the play ground during recesses.

Sun protection is to be considered within the school uniform / dress code and sports uniforms. Summer school clothing is cool, loose fitting and made of densely woven fabric. It includes shirts with collars and longer sleeves and longer cotton summer dresses.

SPF 50+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is available in all classrooms, and in excursion first aid kits for staff and student use.

Children are encouraged to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities. In extreme heat conditions an indoor supervision timetable is implemented at the discretion of the principal.

Staff and parents are encouraged to act as role models by practising Sun Smart behaviours.

#### **Curriculum:**

Programs on skin cancer prevention are incorporated into the curriculum.

Sun Smart behaviour is regularly reinforced in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities, including assemblies.

#### **Environment:**

Outdoor activities are held in areas of shade whenever possible.

The Buildings and Grounds Sub Committee of School Council consistently works toward increasing the amount of built and natural shade available in the school grounds.

Adhering to the Sun Smart Policy is an important factor when planning outdoor sports and excursions.

#### Relevant Documents / Links

- DEECD School Policy & Advisory Guide (SPAG) Sun & UV protection (2011)
- DEECD Health, Safety & Workcover
- Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF)

- Building Quality Standards Handbook (BQSH): Section 7.5.5 Shade Areas
- Education and Training Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into Dress Codes and School Uniforms in Victorian Schools -Government Response
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
- Radiation Protection Standard for Occupational Exposure to Ultraviolet Radiation (2006)
- Safe Work Australia: Guidance Note for the Protection of Workers from the Ultraviolet Radiation in Sunlight

**Evaluation:**

Last updated 16/03/2016

This Policy was last ratified by School Council in.....

**2017**