

Upper Sturt PS: Sun Protection Policy

Preamble

Upper Sturt Primary School utilizes the unique physical environment to provide opportunities for students to learn in, through and about nature. A key element of the teaching and learning program at Upper Sturt, is the opportunity to learn in an outdoor environment. This occurs throughout all seasons including the heat of summer and the cold, wet of winter. Students are encouraged to develop a connection with the natural environment through formal class time as well as play and lunch breaks. An important part of learning in, through and about nature is developing an understanding of the risks associated with all aspects of outdoor learning as well as the responsibilities required to ensure that all measures are taken to minimize these risks and ensure their own and others' safety. The Upper Sturt PS Vision Statement promotes the value of Independence in all students. With support, students are required to develop this Independence by ensuring they comply with the policy below.

Purpose

All department school sites, must have a sun protection policy in effect for school terms 1, 3 and 4 and whenever ultra-violet (UV) radiation levels reach 3 or above. Sites must inform the school community including employees, students, parents and volunteers of the sun protection policy. Children and young people are encouraged to be responsible for their own sun protection.

Using sun protection

The school uses a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities on and off-site **during terms 1, 3 and 4**. This includes:

Clothing

Sun protective clothing is included in the school uniform/dress code and sports uniform. The clothing is cool, loose fitting and made of closely woven fabric. It includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash tops or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.

Sunscreen

Students must apply SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen. The school will supply SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for staff and students' use. Students/ families can supply their own sunscreen if they choose. This sunscreen is available in every classroom, excursions and camps

Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if remaining outdoors.

Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices, sunscreen monitors and buddies).

Hats

All students and staff are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears e.g. legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats, whenever they are outside. Baseball or peak caps are not acceptable.

Shade

Care is taken during the peak UV radiation times, and outdoor activities are scheduled outside of these times, or in the shade, where possible.

Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.

Students who do not have appropriate hats or clothing are asked to stay in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun. If students do not have a hat during play times, they will be restricted to the shaded areas around Tiwu. Students who do not have a hat during outdoor learning time will be restricted to shaded outdoor areas, which may impact their involvement in learning activities. Repeated failure to bring/ wear a hat will result in parent contact and the implementation of the school's Behavioural Learning Policy, with the aim of developing a plan and team approach to ensure the student is successful.

Scope

This policy covers all school sanctioned activities both on and off site. This includes excursions, camps, sports carnivals, local walks, swimming/ aquatics etc. Students who do not have appropriate hat and clothing etc. will be restricted in their participation or unable to attend.

Curriculum

Programs on skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum for all year levels.

Sun Smart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school homepage, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and in student enrolment packs.

The information has been extracted from the [Cancer Council SA SunSmart policy](#)