

TALBOT PRIMARY SCHOOL

SUNSMART

POLICY

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Rationale:

- A healthy UV exposure balance is important for health. Some sun helps with vitamin D. Over exposure to the sun presents a serious health risk and can lead to skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Students must therefore be educated as to the need for suitable sun exposure, sun protection, and protection from over exposure to the sun whilst at school.

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Aims:

- To educate students as to suitable SunSmart protection strategies.
- To encourage children and teachers to get some sun exposure for vitamin D and protect themselves from the harmful effects of overexposure to the sun.

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Implementation:

- Staff and students are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times at sunsmart.com.au or on the free SunSmart app to assist with the implementation of this policy.
- A combination of sun protection measures are used for all outdoor activities from **September to the end of April** and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above.
- This policy is to be read as part of our Student Dress Code which includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.
- Children will be required to wear broad brimmed hats from September to the end of April whenever they are outside.
- Staff will act as role models by also wearing broad brimmed hats when outside.
- Children without broad brimmed hats or covering clothing will be restricted at play to designated shaded areas.
- Children will be actively encouraged to wear/bring a broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30 or higher). Sunscreen is available at school and on excursions for student and staff use.
- Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes (where possible) before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if outdoors.
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies).
- With parental consent, students with naturally very dark skin are not required to wear sunscreen to help with vitamin D requirements
- Staff and students may wear sunglasses (labelled AS1067) whilst in the playground.
- Whenever necessary, outside activities on hot days will be monitored.
- The school council will provide adequate shade structures for students as practicable. Portable shade is supplied on sporting days.
- Where possible broad brimmed/bucket hats will be available for purchase from the school.
- The school newsletter and school assemblies will be used to highlight and reinforce the SunSmart policy.

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- Sunsmart activities and sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.
- Our school will maintain membership as a SunSmart school at the Cancer Council Victoria.

Evaluation:

- * This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three year review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in.

Legislation and Standards

- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
- Education and Training Reform Act 2006: Sch.5 Reg. 1 (1.2)

Relevant documents / links

- The Compact: Roles and Responsibilities in Victorian government school education: Principle 3 (2012)
- 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 8.5.5 Shade Areas (Oct 2011)
- Education and Training Parliamentary Committee Inquiry into Dress Codes and School Uniforms in Victorian Schools -Government Response
- Safe Work Australia: Guidance Note for the Protection of Workers from the Ultraviolet Radiation in Sunlight (2008)

AS 4685.1: 2014 Playground equipment and surfacing – General safety requirements and test methods