

Rowville Primary School

SunSmart Policy



DET International CRICOS Code - 00861K

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to encourage behaviours at Rowville Primary School for both students and staff to minimise the risk of skin and eye damage and skin cancer and is applicable to all students and staff.

This policy provides guidelines to:

- support staff and students to use a combination of sun protection measures when UV index levels are 3 or above (generally end August – end of April)
- ensure that there are outdoor environments that provide adequate shade for students and staff
- ensure students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills to help them to be responsible for their own protection
- support our school's strategies to meet its duty of care and occupational health and safety obligations to minimise harmful UV exposure and associated harm for students and staff.

Sun safety is a shared responsibility and staff, parents and students are encouraged to implement a combination of sun protection measures whenever UV levels reach 3 or above.

IMPLEMENTATION

Rowville Primary School has a range of measures in place to help reduce the risk of excessive UV sun exposure for staff and students.

Rowville Primary School will provide sufficient options for shelter and trees to provide shade on school grounds, particularly in places such as: undercover walkways, the canteen area, outdoor garden areas and play areas. When building works or grounds maintenance is conducted at Rowville Primary School that may impact on the level of shading available to staff and students, a review of the shaded areas available will be conducted and further shading installed as appropriate.

Rowville Primary School's school uniform and dress code includes sun-protective clothing, including: loose, cool, closely-woven fabric, shirts with a collar, tops with long sleeves and longer style shorts and skirts

From 1st September to 30 April, all students **must** wear a sun protective hat that shades the face, neck and ears for all outdoor activities. Students who are not wearing appropriate protective hat will be asked to play in the shade or in a suitable area protected from the sun.

Rowville Primary School encourages all staff and students to apply SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen daily. Teachers will encourage students to apply sunscreen at least 20 minutes before going outdoors at fruit snack and lunch eating time. Staff and families should role model sun smart behaviour and are encouraged to apply SPF 30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen when outside.

Staff are encouraged to access resources, tools, and professional learning to enhance their knowledge and capacity to promote sun smart behaviour across the school community. The students at Rowville Primary School are encouraged to make healthy choices, and are supported to understand the benefits and risks of sun exposure.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- Department's Policy Advisory Library - [Sun and UV Protection Policy](#)

REVIEW CYCLE

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

This policy was ratified on 9th December 2020 and is due to be reviewed in July 2023