



Bundoora Primary School

SUMSMART POLICY 2020

This policy has been developed using the DET Policy Portal and follows all DET requirements.

The majority of the text in this policy applies to all Victorian Government schools, and does not need to be tailored to your school community.

PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to encourage behaviours at Bundoora Primary School to minimise the risk of skin and eye damage and skin cancer.

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 mid-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

SCOPE

This policy applies to all school activities, including camps and excursions. It is applicable to all students and staff.

POLICY

Excessive exposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation can cause health problems including sunburn, damage to skin and eyes, and an increased risk of skin cancer.

UV radiation:

- cannot be seen or felt
- can be reflected off surfaces such as buildings, asphalt, concrete, water, sand and snow
- can pass through light clouds
- varies in intensity across the year (highest in Victoria from mid-August – end of April)
- peaks during school hours

School council approved this policy on [insert date].

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 and above (typically from mid-August to the end of April in Victoria). Information about the daily local sun protection times is available via the free SunSmart app, or at sunsmart.com.au or bom.gov.au.

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

Shade

Bundoora Primary School will provide sufficient options for shelter and trees to provide shade on school grounds, particularly in places such as:

- the undercover area between Buildings 1 and 2
- The sheltered areas provided by our Discovery Centre
- the shade sails provided on the deck and over our play areas
- our treed areas located around the school

When building works or grounds maintenance is conducted at Bundoora 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.

Sun protective uniform/clothing

Bundoora Primary School recommends that in terms 1 and 4 all students must wear school approved hats whilst outdoors.

Bundoora Primary School's school uniform and dress code includes sun-protective clothing, including:

- polo shirts with a collar and/or high necklines
- loose, cool, closely-woven fabric
- tops with elbow length or long sleeves
- longer style shorts and skirts
- hat styles that protect the face, neck and ears when outdoors, for example broad-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket.

Students who are not wearing appropriate protective clothing or a hat may be asked to play in the shade or in a suitable area protected from the sun.

Sunscreen

Bundoora Primary School encourages all staff and students to apply SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen daily whenever UV levels reach 3 and above. Sunscreen should be applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors, and reapplied every two hours according to [manufacturer's instructions](#).

Staff and families should role model SunSmart behaviour and are encouraged to apply SPF 30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen when outside.

Sunglasses

School council approved this policy on [insert date].

Where practical Bundoora Primary School encourages students and staff engaged in outdoor activities to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

Curriculum

Students at our school are encouraged to make healthy choices, and are supported to understand the benefits and risks of sun exposure. Bundoora Primary School will address sun and UV safety education as part of our health and physical Education program from years F-6.

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.

Engaging students, staff and families

SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school website/intranet, staff and parent meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and at student enrolment/new staff orientation.

Families and staff are provided with information, ideas and practical strategies to support UV safety at school and at home. Bundoora Primary School may provide families and staff with information through newsletters, class emails, noticeboards, and school website and school assemblies.

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

- School Policy Advisory Guide:
 - [Sun and UV Protection Policy](#)
 - [Duty of care](#)
- [SunSmart](#)

REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on [date] and is scheduled for review on [month/date].

School council approved this policy on [insert date].