



HAWKER SCHOOL

Adventures Through Learning



School Policy:	Sun (UV) Protection at Hawker School
Development:	2016
Review Date:	2019

Policy

The Sun Protection Policy aims to ensure that all students and staff attending Hawker School have the instruction, equipment and environment that will protect them from skin and eye damage caused by over exposure to the sun's ultraviolet rays.

Rationale

As a member of Cancer Council's National SunSmart Schools Program since 2005, Hawker School has agreed to take part in a SunSmart policy program and review every 3 years.

When UV levels reach 3 and above, sun protection is recommended by Cancer Council ACT as UV levels are strong enough to damage unprotected skin. In Canberra the Cancer Council recommends sun protection measures are used when the UV levels reach 3 and above, being most of each day from the beginning of August to the end of May. Sun protection is generally not recommended for June and July in Canberra to support vitamin D production.

Procedures

This policy is reflected in the planning of ALL outdoor activities and events.

From August to May for part or most of each day a combination of sun protection measures will be recommended when spending time outdoors.

1. Sun protection clothing is included in our school's uniform policy and will be encouraged between August and May i.e. longer sleeve shirts and shorts/dresses, shirts with collars, rash vests etc.
2. All students to wear a broad brimmed hat, bucket hat or legionnaire style hat which protects the face, neck and ears from the sun whenever UV levels are 3 and above. Caps are not acceptable.
3. Students will be encouraged and directed to play in shaded areas, this is particularly important during Terms 1 and 4.
4. Children who do not have an appropriate hat or clothing during lunchtime or outdoor activities will be required to play under a shaded area, or remain inside (i.e. library) if adequate shade is not available. Suitable hats are available from the P&C Uniform Shop.
5. Parents can choose to provide a broad-spectrum sunscreen with an SPF rating of at least 30+.
6. In the event a student does not have sunscreen provided by their parents, students can access sunscreen from each classroom.
7. Students will be encouraged / reminded to apply sunscreen before outdoor experiences and reapply after 2 hours if required. Students are given opportunities to apply sunscreen during the day.

8. Students will be required to wear a rash vest or a t-shirt) when taking part in all day outdoor sporting carnivals because the risk of sunburn is significantly increased.
9. Students and staff can choose to wear sunglasses when outside. A close fitting wrap-around style will offer optimal protection. AS 1067 cat 2, 3 or 4. Sunglasses may be worn throughout the whole year.
10. The school will aim to minimize extended outdoor activities and events as much as reasonably practicable between 11am and 3pm during the daylight saving period of the year (i.e. term 1 and 4) when UV levels are at their strongest.
11. The school will review and maintain its sun protection policy and practices by updating this policy as required, to maintain high sun protection standards.
12. All staff will act as positive SunSmart role models by adopting sun protection behaviour.
13. Parents and visitors to the school will be encouraged to adopt positive sun protection behaviour when taking part in outdoor school events and activities.
14. SunSmart messages will be positively promoted throughout our school via notice boards, school assemblies and on the school website.

Education and Awareness

Education around sun protection and skin damage is included in our school's curriculum/activities in all year levels. Classroom resources can be obtained from www.actcancer.org

Staff can access the daily Sun Smart UV Alert to assist them with effective sun protection measures.

http://www.bom.gov.au/products/UV/Canberra_NSW.shtml

Work Health and Safety

Under Work Health and Safety legislation, the school staff have a shared responsibility and duty of care to reduce workplace UV exposure. All staff members will be required to adopt a combination of sun protection behaviours when participating in outdoor school related events and activities when UV levels are 3 and above.

Environment

Hawker Primary School is committed toward developing shade areas and will continue to ensure that there are sufficient shade structures throughout the school, including tree plantings.

Related Policies and Procedures: Sun Smart Association documents
www.actcancer.org

Status: Endorsed by the School Board 6/9/16