

ST CECILIA'S PRIMARY SCHOOL
PORT HEDLAND

SUN PROTECTION



*St Cecilia's Primary School
Vision Statement*

St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School is a multi-cultural Catholic School where staff, parents and students strive to provide a secure environment concerned with the spiritual, moral, social, emotional and intellectual development of each person. We endeavour to create an atmosphere of openness, mutual respect and loyalty within the school community.

Written 2011
Reviewed 2013
Review 2016

SUN PROTECTION POLICY

RATIONALE

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Research indicates that childhood and adolescent sun exposure is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer. As students are at school during times when UV radiation levels are highest, schools play a major role in minimising student's UV exposure.

Our sun protection policy has been adopted to ensure that all staff and students attending St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School are protected from skin damage caused by UV radiation from the sun. This policy is to be implemented throughout the year. The sun protection practices outlined in this policy will be applied to all school activities, including sports carnivals, excursions and camps.

OUR COMMITMENT

St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School will:

- Inform parents of this sun protection policy when they enrol their child/children
- Brief all new staff on the sun protection policy.
- Promote sun protection via newsletters, assemblies, messages, whole school activities, and parent and staff meetings.
- Require staff to wear sun protection for all outdoor activities, including yard duty.
- Encourage parents and guests to wear sun protection when participating in and attending outdoor school activities.
- Require students to wear broad brimmed school hats when outside.
- Direct students without a school hat to stay in an area that is protected from the sun.
- Require students to wear broad brimmed or school hats, sun protective clothing and sunscreen for all camps, sports and excursions. These items will be included in lists and letters to parents.
- Require staff and students to wear a rashies for swimming (this may not be appropriate during competitive swimming).
- Review the school dress code to include sun protective items such as shirts with collars and longer sleeves, and rashies for swimming.
- Ensure there is adequate provision of shade within the school grounds for students and staff, by planting trees and building shade structures. Particularly in areas where students congregate e.g. lunch, canteen, outdoor lesson areas.
- Encourage staff and students to use shaded or covered areas when outside.
- Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- Timetable as many outdoor activities as possible - including assemblies, sport and physical education - before 10 am and after 3 pm. When the weather is hot we shall also make sure that sporting lessons take place in the hall where children will be protected from the sun and have the comfort of Air conditioning.
- Encourage the use of SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen by:
 - providing sunscreen in the classroom.

- allowing students time to apply sunscreen prior to outdoor activities e.g. prior to school, before lunch, PE lessons, sports, excursions etc.
- Incorporate sun protection and skin cancer awareness programs into the appropriate Key Learning Areas of the school curriculum.
- Review the sun protection policy every three years.

Parents/carers will:

- Ensure your child/children has/have a broad brimmed school hat available from the school uniform shop.
- Ensure that your child/children's clothing provides adequate protection from UV radiation. The Cancer Council WA recommends the following:
 - collars and sleeves
 - closely woven fabric
 - natural fibre
 - rashies for swimming.
- Ensure that your child/children has/have access to SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen before leaving for school.
- Act as positive role models by practising SunSmart behaviour.
- Support the school's sun protection policy.

Students will:

- Be aware of the school's sun protection policy.
- Take responsibility for their health by being SunSmart.
- Comply with SunSmart rules and guidelines by wearing suitable hats and clothing.
- Apply SPF30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen before going outdoors.
- Use shaded or covered areas outdoors.
- Act as positive role models for other students in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour.
- Be actively involved in initiatives to protect the school community from over-exposure to the sun.
- Help design and regularly update the SunSmart policy.
- Actively participate in SunSmart education programs.

REVIEW

St Cecilia's Catholic Primary School will appoint staff to update the SunSmart policy at our school every three years including:

1. Reviewing the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents, and visitors and make recommendations for improvement.
2. Assessing shade provision and usage and make recommendations for increases in shade provision.
3. Updating and promoting curriculum material relevant to SunSmart activities.