



Sun Safety Policy

Hermit Park State School is a Sun Smart School.

Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world and North Queensland has consistently high UV rates year-round. We recognise the importance of sun safety in our community for our staff and students. Our school promotes the importance of parents/carers, teachers, ancillary staff, volunteers and other adult supervisors as role models for students

Hermit Park State School aims to educate our students about being sun safe in order to develop important, life-long, healthy habits, and acknowledges the important role adults play during and outside school hours to reinforce sun safety with children and young people.

In implementing this policy, our school and community recognise that:

- This policy applies to all school and school-related activities and events
- the strategies are to be implemented during the whole school day and year-round and
- a combination of sun safe strategies is more effective than a single approach.

Learning

Our school provides educational programs on sun safety and preventative measures:

- Programs on sun protection are included in the Health curriculum.
- Students and staff are encouraged to be involved in initiatives to promote and model sun protection measures to the whole school community.

Seek shade

- Our school maximises the use of available shade for outdoor activities. The school has shelters and trees providing shade in outdoor areas particularly in high-use areas. These include covered lunch spaces, large shade trees in playground, shaded playgrounds, rainforest area and shaded indoor/outdoor hall area
- Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside
- Students who do not have appropriate hats or outdoor clothing are asked to play under a building.
- Staff are encouraged to use available areas of shade when engaging in outdoor learning
- Shade-less outdoor activities are minimized between 10am-3pm where possible
- An Extreme Weather Plan is in place for high temperatures.

Slip on sun protective clothing

Students are required to wear protective clothing, including appropriate hats, when outdoors during the school day and during school-related activities (for example, excursions/camps) to reduce students' exposure to the sun.

- The school uniform/dress code includes sun protective items including shirts with collars and elbow-length sleeves, bucket hat, long sleeved UV shirt
- Students are required to wear swim shirts/rash vests during all water-based activities occurring at outdoor venues, except during their race/s at competitions and carnivals.



Slap on a sun protective hat

- Students are required to wear appropriate hats when outdoors and must always bring a hat to school
- All students and staff wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears (legionnaire, broad-brimmed or bucket hat), whenever they are outside. Peak caps and visors are not considered a suitable alternative.

Slop on sunscreen

- Students provide their own SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for daily use
- The school supplies SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for student and staff use at events such as sports days, Under 8's day and swimming carnival
- Sunscreen is applied in accordance with the manufacturer's directions (applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours, or more frequently if sweating or swimming)
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.

Monitoring and review

- The school P&C and staff monitor and review the effectiveness of the Sun Safety/SunSmart policy and revise the policy when required (at least once every three years) by completing a policy review and membership renewal with SunSmart at sunsmart.com.au.

Date of commencement: January 2022

Review date: January 2025

Endorsed by:

Larissa Moule P&C President

Liam Cody Staff Representative

Approved by:

Natalie Taylor Principal

Date of approval: 21 January 2022