



SUN SMART POLICY

Sun Protection

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Research indicates that childhood sun exposure is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer later in life. As students are at school during times when UV radiation levels are highest, schools play a major role in creating a supportive environment that minimises exposure and encourages sun protective behaviours. The sun protection practices outlined in this policy will be applied to all school activities, including sports carnivals, excursions and camps.

Sun Protection Practices

- PVS has a strict 'no hat, no play' policy in operation all year round, for all students during the school day. It is requested that each child brings their labelled hat to school daily.
- There is a limited supply of spare hats which can be borrowed, and sunscreen available to re-apply at school.
- Students who do not have their hat and are unable to borrow one before playtime must spend playtime sitting in a designated shaded area, which include Fat Cat's Cottage benches and the Library on days it is open during play time.
- Duty teachers will ensure students with no hat go to the designated shaded areas. Where possible, teachers will allow them to participate in a quiet activity, like reading.
- Students are required to wear hats, sun protective clothing and sunscreen for all outdoor activities throughout the school day, including camps, play, sport lessons and excursions. Before school care and before school sports may, at times, be exempt from this rule depending on weather and time of year.
- Sun protection should be worn by all staff involved in outdoor activities, including playground duty.

PVS aims to:

- 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, for example, play times, eating times, outdoor lesson areas.
- Encourage staff and students to use shaded or covered areas when outside.
- Ensure adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- Hold assemblies/events indoors, or under shade, when the UV Index is above 3.
- Promote sun protection throughout the year via assemblies, classroom discussion, newsletters, staff and parent meetings.

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