



Robe Primary School

Sun Protection/Hat Policy

Respect – Courage – Integrity

There is a healthy balance of the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposure although too much UV from the sun can cause sunburn, skin damage, eye damage and skin cancer. Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world. Skin Cancer is almost totally preventable through simple inexpensive sun protection methods.

At Robe Primary School we are committed to protecting students, staff and parents from the risks of UV radiation.

Aim of the policy:

- Ensure all students, staff and parents maintain a healthy UV exposure balance
- Encourage the entire school to use simple sun protection methods
- Assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection
- Ensure all students wear bucket hats during Term 1 and Term 4 at all times whilst outside, where appropriate
- Ensure staff are well informed on the *Sun Smart for School Policy* provided by Cancer Council Australia
- Ensure sun protection measures are used when the UV is 3 or above according to the *Bureau of Meteorology*
- Provide an appropriate amount of shaded areas for students to use
- Ensure students are exposed to educational programs outlining skin prevention and healthy UV exposure
- Enforce the consequences regarding breaches of this policy
- Rescheduling outdoor activities when the UV levels are extreme, during the hours of 10am and 2pm

Shade

The school ensures:

- Shade is available within the school grounds, particularly where students eat their lunch
- Outdoor lessons can be taken in a shaded area
- All students eat their lunch and recess in the shade
- Outdoor assemblies are held in a shaded area
- We maintain shaded areas within the school, including trees
- When the UV reaches 3, make sure students are encouraged to be well protected and use the shaded areas as outlined in the *Sun Smart for School Policy* provided by Cancer Council Australia
- Shaded areas are provided at our annual school Sports Day

Personal Protection

The school ensures:

Hats

- During Terms 1 and 4 students are to wear a navy bucket hat (purchased from the school) when outside at all times 'No hat, no play!'
- Staff, parents and volunteers must wear hats during Term 1 and Term 4 whilst outdoors
- Students not wearing hats are required to sit under a shaded roof area within the school
- If a child has not had a hat for at least 1 week, parents will be notified



Clothing

- Our school *Uniform Policy* provides appropriate sun protection through a collared t-shirt and dress, short sleeves, and appropriate length shorts
- School uniform must be worn at all times in accordance with our *Uniform Policy*
- When participating in swimming lessons, students must wear a rash vest or t-shirt at all times

Sunscreen

- SPF 50+ Broad Spectrum sunscreen is available for staff and students' to use
- Staff encourage students to apply sunscreen before going outside during Term 1 and 4
- Students are encouraged to wear sunscreen to school in the morning

Scheduling of activities

The school ensures:

- This policy is considered when planning all outdoor activities such as: camps, excursions, sporting events and special assemblies
- Where possible, outdoor activities/events will be scheduled to minimise time in the direct sun, preferably before 10am and after 2pm
- Events and activities will be cancelled or postponed if the UV risk is too Extreme, according to the **Bureau of Meteorology**

Education

The school ensures:

- Educational programs on skin cancer prevention and healthy UV exposure for Vitamin D are incorporated into appropriate areas of the school curriculum
- Students and staff are educated about the correct use of sunscreen and level of protection it provides
- Information and reminders about sun protection is provided to parents through newsletters/ notices
- Reminders are provided to the school community about any upcoming outdoor events
- Staff model sun safe behaviour