



# Onslow School Sun Protection Policy



## Aim

Our Sun Protection Policy has been developed to put SunSmart practices into place so that students, staff and volunteers are protected from skin damage caused by harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun.

## Implementation

This policy is to be implemented and is applied all year to protect from consistently elevated UV index during daytime hours in our region. This will be monitored by delegated staff and sunscreen is listed on the personal items list to be purchased at the for the school year. The sun protection practices outlined in this policy will be applied to all school activities, including sports carnivals, excursions, and camps.

## Procedures

### Scheduling outdoor activities

- Where possible, the school schedules outdoor activities such as assemblies, outdoor lessons, sport, and physical education to avoid peak UV times.
- When outdoor activities are scheduled at times when the UV Index is 3 or higher, maximum use is made of shade, sunscreen, hats and long clothing to protect students and staff.

### Shade

- Onslow School endeavours to ensure there is adequate provision of shade within the school grounds for students and staff, particularly in areas in high use areas. This includes popular play areas, where children eat lunch, the canteen, and outdoor lesson areas.
- Onslow School provides adequate shade at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- Shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings, grounds, and playground equipment in collaboration with Onslow School Council and Onslow P&C.

### Hats

- Onslow School requires students, staff and volunteers to wear a broad-brimmed, bucket or legionnaires style hat that protects the face, neck, ears, and crown of the head whenever they are outside.
- Students without hats will remain protected from the sun and encouraged to play in designated shaded areas.

### Clothing

- Cool, loose-fitting sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform / dress code and sports uniform. It includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, and longer dresses and shorts.
- Uniform policy, as decided by Onslow School Council, will ensure adherence to Sun protection policy.

### Sunscreen

- Sunscreen is made available and accessible to staff and students in classrooms and at key locations within the school.
- For outdoors activities that are longer than 15mins, students and staff will apply SPF30 or higher broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors, e.g. PE lessons
- Staff and student will apply sunscreen at least once per day, preferable between recess and lunch
- Staff will reapply sunscreen to the students and themselves if it is washed or wiped off.
- The occupational safety and health representative will inform staff of the appropriate storage of sunscreen and monitor the expiry date of sunscreen and discard when out of date
- Parents who DO NOT CONSENT to sunscreen application at school need to communicate with the school via email [onslow.ps@education.wa.edu.au](mailto:onslow.ps@education.wa.edu.au) or on enrolment, complete Sun Protection Policy consent form.

### Sunglasses (optional)

- Where practical, students are encouraged to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2,3 or 4).

### Role modelling and occupational health and safety

- To support health and safety legislation, staff will model SunSmart practices when supervising students.

### Education

- Programs on sun protection are included in the curriculum for all year levels.

### Informing the school community

- Sun Protection Policy forms part of the enrolment pack for new families.
- Sun protection is communicated to staff, families and visitors via newsletters, social media, assemblies, daily messages, whole school activities, and parent and staff meetings.
- Families and visitors are encouraged to role model sun protection measures when attending outdoor activities.

### Policy monitoring and review

- The sun protection policy will be made available to staff and parents. Parents are informed of this sun protection policy when they enrol their child/children. All new employees are briefed on the sun protection policy.
- The policy is monitored regularly and reviewed every three years.

Date for review: Term 1 2025

