

COATESVILLE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Sunsmart Policy

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Authorised: School Council 20 /10/09

1 Purpose

A healthy balance between too much and too little ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun is important for health. Over exposure to the sun presents a serious health risk. Students must therefore be educated as to the need for suitable sun protection, and protected from over exposure to the sun whilst at school. This policy is to provide clear guidelines to the Coatesville Community in relation to the school's Sunsmart requirements.

2 References

Sunsmart Victoria Schools checklist

Coatesville Primary School Dress Code policy

Victorian Government Schools Reference Guide: 4.5.11 Skin protection
www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/referenceguide/enviro/default.htm

Building Quality Standards Handbook (BQSH): Section 7.5.5 Shade Areas

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

3 Definitions and Abbreviations

Parent In this policy in relation to a child, includes step parent, adoptive parent, foster parent, guardian, or person who has custody or daily care and control of the child.

4 Guidelines

Coatesville Primary School will encourage the application of Sunsmart recommendations through appropriate education, facilities and practical requirements.

5 Implementation

5.1 This policy is to be read as part of our Student Dress Code.

5.2 Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform / dress code and sports uniform. School clothing is made of close weave fabric and includes shirts with collars and longer sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts.

5.3 Broad-brimmed hats must be worn when outside from the beginning of September to the end of April.

5.4 Sunscreen is a useful Sunsmart strategy, but not as effective as a broad-brimmed hat, appropriate clothing and natural shades.

5.5 All staff and students will be actively encouraged to wear a broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30+) from the beginning of September to the end of April when undertaking outside activities.

5.6 Parents who wish their child to wear sunscreen are expected to apply sunscreen to their child prior to school each day.

5.7 Staff will remind students to reapply sunscreen before going outdoors.

- 5.8 Staff will act as role models by also wearing broad brimmed hats, appropriate clothing and sunscreen when outside.
- 5.9 Children without broad brimmed hats will be seated on benches outside the staff room – no hat no play.
- 5.10 Staff and students should supply their own personal sunscreen, but coloured zinc styled creams etc will not be permissible. Emergency sunscreen (low allergy) will be available on excursions in the first aid kit.
- 5.11 Sunscreen will be applied by students according to the manufacturer's directions, under the supervision of teachers. Prior to eating lunch, children will be encouraged to top up their sunscreen application.
- 5.12 The school fundraising sub-committee will run periodic sunglass drives and encourage the use of sunglasses.
- 5.13 Whenever possible, outside activities on hot days should be scheduled before 11:00 am. The extreme weather timetable will be enacted when required.
- 5.14 The school council will provide adequate shade structures for students as practicable; particularly over high density play areas such as sand pits and play equipment.
- 5.15 The school newsletter and school assemblies will be used to highlight and reinforce the Sunsmart policy.
- 5.16 Sunsmart activities and sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.
- 5.17 Our school will seek membership as a Sunsmart school at the Cancer Council Victoria.

6 Review:

- 6.1 This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle.