



Lee Street
State Special School

Sun Safety Policy

**Learn
Enrich
Empower**



Sun Safety at Lee Street State Special School

Rationale

Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Of all new cancers diagnosed in Australia each year, 80 per cent are skin cancers. Given students are at school during peak ultraviolet radiation (UVR) times throughout the day, between 10am and 2pm, schools play a major role in both minimising a student's UVR exposure and providing an environment where policies and procedures can positively influence student behaviour. Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun. Research shows severe sunburn contributes to skin cancer and other forms of skin damage such as sunspots, blemishes and premature ageing. Most skin damage and skin cancer is therefore preventable. With this in mind, Lee Street State Special School realises the need to protect students' skin and educate them about SunSmart behaviour, thus reducing the risk of skin damage from exposure to the sun.

Aims

Lee Street State Special School endeavours to minimise the exposure of its students and staff to harmful UV radiation from the sun through:

- Enforcement of a sun smart dress code
- A focus on providing appropriate and sufficient shade facilities
- Education within the curriculum to develop awareness and foster self-responsibility for skin cancer prevention and early detection
- A proactive risk management system ensuring sun protection is managed effectively for all school activities.

Implementation

- The school will inform parents of the sun-safe policy when a child enrolls.
- The Sun-safe policy will be available on the school website.
- The school will seek ongoing support from parents for the policy and its implementation through the newsletter and Facebook.
- All new staff will be informed of the sun-safe policy at their induction.
- Education programs that focus on sun safety will be incorporated into the school curriculum.
- Students wear the uniform (designed with consideration to the Queensland Cancer Fund SunSmart clothing guidelines) in a way that complies with the Sun-safe policy. This includes wearing the school approved bucket hat.
- 30+ broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen will be provided when involved in outdoor activity. Students are also encouraged to supply and reapply their own at regular intervals.
- Students proactively encouraged in the use of their 30+ broad spectrum sun screen.
- Provision of adequate 30+ broad spectrum sun screen in outdoor Physical Education classes, and outdoor activities. Parents are to advise the school if their child has an allergy to specific sunscreen brand, and will use their own or none if this is the case.
- Encourage students without adequate sun protection to use shade areas during morning tea and lunch times.
- Encourage students to wear sunglasses where it is safe and practicable to do so.
- Allow students to wear swim shirts, long or short sleeve of lycra fabric with a UVP rating.
- Encourage all staff to act as positive role models for students in all aspects of sun-safe dress and behaviour.
- Ensure that the risk of exposure to UV radiation is included in the risk assessment for all activities, which will include ensuring that adequate shade is provided for sports carnivals and other outdoor event



Expectations of students

Students should:

- Be aware of the School Sun-safe policy
- Develop the skills to take responsibility for their own health and safety by being SunSmart, and complying with school requirements and using 30+ sunscreen and wearing a hat and sun glasses where possible
- When practicable, use shaded or covered areas when outdoors
- Act as positive role models for other students in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour
- Participate in SunSmart education programs.

Expectations of Staff

Staff should:

- Carry out a risk assessment for any outdoor activity and/or follow the UV protection controls established in
- the risk management plan
- Remind students of SunSmart behaviour as required
- Act as good role models with respect to SunSmart behaviour.

Expectations of parents

Parents should:

- Provide the components of the School SunSmart uniforms for their child, including the appropriate hat
- Provide their child with adequate 30+ broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen, and encourage them to use it
- Act as positive role models by practising SunSmart behaviour
- Support the school SunSmart policy.

Related Policy Documents

Developing a Sun Safety strategy

<http://education.qld.gov.au/schools/healthy/wellbeing-guidelines/sun-safety.html>

Sun safety in Secondary School guidelines- Education QLD

The Learning Place: Sun safety Education Resources

[The Learning Place: sun safety education resources](#) 

Cancer Council Queensland

http://www.cancerqld.org.au/page/prevention/skin_cancer/