

Sun Smart Policy

Rationale

Our Sun Smart policy has been developed to ensure that all students and staff attending Brentwood Secondary College are aware of maintaining a healthy UV exposure balance. This policy documents our sun protection practices in the areas of behaviour, curriculum and environment.

Objectives

The goals of the Sun Smart policy are to:

- Increase student and staff awareness of maintaining a healthy UV exposure balance.
- Assist students to develop strategies that encourage responsible decision making about skin protection when UV index levels are high.
- Work towards a safe college environment, which provides shade for students and staff.
- Assist students, parents, teachers and staff to be responsible for their own sun protection: to wear protective clothing, hats and sunscreen during high-risk UV exposure times such as lunchtimes, sports, excursions and camps.
- Ensure that families are informed of the college's Sun Smart policy.

Implementation

Behaviour

It is recommended that students wear sun protective hats and clothing during recess, lunchtime and during sporting and other outdoor activities.

- Sunscreen – It is recommended that students use their own sunscreen during high-risk UV exposure times. The college will provide sunscreen for use during sporting and other outdoor excursions.
- Sun hat – A sun protective hat has been included as part of the college uniform. Students must use the college authorised school hat. All students are recommended to have a sun protective hat at college during Terms 1 and 4.
- Sunglasses – Students and staff are recommended to wear sunglasses when outdoors.
- Clothing – Sun protective clothing is included in our college uniform.

- Physical Education – All students are to be protected from the sun during outdoor physical education. On days of extreme temperature / UV ratings teachers will try to minimise activities in the sun. Throughout Terms 1 and 4 all students must wear sun protective hats and sunscreen when outdoors.
- Camps and Excursions – Suitable hats, clothing and sunscreen are required for all camps and excursions. These items will be listed on the parent permission form.
- Adult Role Models – Staff have a responsibility to model appropriate protection and are encouraged to wear hats and use sunscreen whilst on duty or participating in outdoor class or sport activities.
- Occupational Health and Safety – Consideration should be given to sun protection for all teachers involved in outdoor activities including yard duty. Physical Education teachers should be encouraged to take appropriate sun protection measures as they are particularly at risk from UV radiation.

Curriculum

Information related to sun protection, skin cancer prevention, Vitamin D and maintaining a healthy UV exposure balance is included in Health, Physical Education and Science. We encourage students to be actively involved in initiatives to protect the college community from over-exposure to the sun.

Environment

The Resources Sub-Committee of Council monitors provision of shade within the college grounds for students and staff and responds to initiatives as a part of the college development process and in accordance with resource allocation. Plans for future buildings and grounds will be monitored for inclusion of adequate shade provision.

Adequate shade and sun protection is an integral part of the planning for all sports carnivals held in Terms 1 and 4. All new staff members are briefed on the Sun Smart Policy as part of the regular induction program. At the beginning of first and fourth term the college community will be reminded of the policy via newsletters and assemblies.

Evaluation

The Sun Smart Policy will be available on the college website. The College Council regularly review the effectiveness of this policy with respect to Sun Smart behaviour of the college community, the provision and use of shade in the college and the Sun Smart protection and skin cancer prevention of the curriculum.