Mansfield Primary School
Sunsmart Policy

BASIC BELIEF

Mansfield Primary School Sunsmart Policy has been developed to encourage all children at the school to protect themselves, particularly from September to the end of April and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above, the level that can damage skin and eyes.

Staff are encouraged to access the SunSmart UV Alert at sunsmart.com.au or www.mansfieldps.vic.edu.au to find out daily local sun protection times to assist with the implementation of this policy.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. Behaviour:
   Our school will:
   • Encourage parents to provide blue broad-brimmed hats, as per uniform, which protect the face, neck and ears.
   • Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform / dress code and sports uniform. School clothing is cool, loose fitting and made of densely woven fabric. It includes shirts with collars and longer sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.
   • Encourage children whenever outside - e.g. recess, lunch, sport, excursions, camps to wear their hats.
   • Provide SPF30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for use by students and staff. Encourage individual students to use own sunscreen. Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies).
   • Encourage children to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities. Children not wearing appropriate hats or covering clothing will be required to play in designated shade areas and may be excluded from timetabled outdoor activities.
   • Encourage staff and parents to act as role models by practicing Sunsmart Behaviours.

2. Curriculum:
   Our school will:
   • Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention into the curriculum - (eg Life Education, Sunsmart).
   • Regularly reinforce Sunsmart behaviour in a positive way through newsletters, parents meetings, and student and teacher activities.
   • Apply the Sunsmart policy to all outdoor education programs e.g. excursions, camping, swimming and ski programs.

3. Environment:
   Our school will:
   • Assess the use of school grounds in relation to the availability and use of shade.
   • Develop long-term shade strategies for the school grounds.

4. Monitoring and Evaluation:
   Our school will:
• Regularly review the effectiveness of the Sunsmart strategies in the school.
• Continue to evaluate and update the skin cancer prevention component of the curriculum.

This policy was ratified by the Mansfield Primary School Council on – 17th December 2011.

Review Date: 2014