

SCHOOL NO. 4401 KATANDRA WEST

Policy Statement: ENVIRONMENT

676 - SUN SMART

Responsibility: Principal, Staff and School Council.

This Policy was last ratified by School Council in 2014.

1. **PURPOSE:**

Our SunSmart Policy has been developed to ensure that all children attending Katandra West Primary School have a healthy UV exposure to help with vitamin D and are offered protection from the potential damage caused by the overexposure to ultra-violet rays of the sun. (It is to be implemented whenever UV levels reach three and above but with compulsory enforcement from September to the end of April.

2. **GUIDELINES:**

Staff and students are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times at sunsmart.com.au or on the free Sun Smart app to assist with the implementation of this Policy.

• **Behaviour**

- Children will wear a wide brimmed hat that protects the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside from September to the end of April. (eg recess, lunch, sport or excursions).
- Children without wide brimmed hats will be confined to designated shaded areas.
- Through Parent Payments and Parents and Friends our school will provide SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for staff and student use whenever required.
- Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes (where possible) before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if outdoors.
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices, sunscreen monitors, sunscreen buddies).
- With parental consent, students with naturally very dark skin are not required to wear sunscreen to help with vitamin D requirements.
- Children are encouraged to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities, in particular from September to the end of April. .
- Staff and Parents are encouraged to act as role models by practising SunSmart behaviours such as wearing Sunsmart hats.
- Children without a Rash Vest or T-shirt will not be permitted to participate in any outdoor swimming activities that are connected to the school.

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- **Curriculum**
- Skin cancer prevention programs will be incorporated into the curriculum throughout the school.
- SunSmart behaviour will be regularly reinforced in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.

- **Environment**
- Outdoor activities will be scheduled before 11.00 am on hot days.
- Activities taken outdoors will be held in areas of shade whenever possible.
- We shall work towards increasing the number of sheltered areas and trees so as to provide adequate shade in the school grounds.
- Children must wear rashie or t-shirts when swimming outdoors.

- The Principal, in consultation with School Council, may vary this Policy if circumstances require it.