



St Anne's Primary School

*PO Box 493
27 Young Street
HARVEY WA 6220*

St Anne's School – SunSmart Procedure

1. PURPOSE

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world, with two out of three Australians developing some form of skin cancer in their lifetime. Exposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation during childhood and adolescence is a major contributing factor to skin cancer in later life.

Skin cancer is preventable, and awareness programs incorporated into the school curriculum, along with proactive sun protection practices, can significantly reduce long-term risks for students and staff. St Anne's Catholic Primary School is committed to implementing comprehensive SunSmart strategies to minimize UV exposure and promote lifelong sun-safe habits.

2. DEFINITIONS

2.1 SunSmart Policy – This procedure ensures that all staff and students at St Anne's Primary School are protected from UV-related skin damage through education and behavioral strategies.

2.2 This policy is enforced throughout the year, with particular emphasis from September to May, when UV radiation levels are highest.

2.3 Sun protection practices outlined in this procedure apply to all outdoor school activities, including recess, lunch, sports, excursions, and camps.

2.4 This procedure has been developed in consultation with the school community, including the Parents and Friends Association (P&F).

3. SCOPE

This procedure applies to all students, staff, and visitors at St Anne's Primary School, Harvey.

4. PRINCIPLES

4.1 Sun Protection Behaviors

4.1.1 Hats: Students must wear a school uniform hat whenever they are outdoors, including during Physical Education, excursions, camps, sporting events, and general play.

4.1.2 No Hat, Stay Undercover: Students without a hat must remain undercover outside their classroom and not under playground trees.

4.1.3 Hat Design: The school uniform hat provides adequate sun protection.

4.1.4 Hat Etiquette: Hats must be removed indoors and during assemblies in the undercover area.

4.1.5 Identification: Students must have their names clearly marked on their hats.

4.1.6 Staff Sun Protection: Staff are encouraged to wear hats while outdoors.

4.1.7 Role Modelling: SunSmart behaviors should be modeled by all staff, parents, and visitors.

4.1.8 Sunscreen Application:

- Students should apply sunscreen before school and before recess/lunch breaks and outdoor activities.
- Parents are encouraged to provide their children with broad-spectrum, SPF 30+ sunscreen.

4.1.9 Shade Utilization: Students should be encouraged to use available shade during outdoor activities and play.

4.1.10 Winter Exemption: During June and July, students are not required to wear a SunSmart hat to minimize the risk of Vitamin D deficiency, in line with Cancer Council recommendations.

4.1.11 The school will ensure the SunSmart procedure remains up to date with current Cancer Council guidelines.

4.2 Curriculum and Promotion

4.2.1 Education: Sun protection and skin cancer awareness will be integrated into the Health and Physical Education curriculum for all year levels.

4.2.2 School-wide Promotion: Sun protection will be actively promoted through:

- School assemblies
- Public address (PA) announcements
- School newsletters

4.2.3 Sunscreen Use: Students will be encouraged to apply sunscreen before outdoor activities, with considerations made for those with sensitive skin.

5. RESOURCES

5.1 Hats – Available for purchase through the school uniform shop.

5.2 Sunscreen Dispensers – Located in classrooms for easy access.

6. EVALUATION AND REVIEW

This procedure and its implementation will be reviewed every two years in consultation with the school community, including staff and the Parents and Friends Association (P&F).

7. NEXT REVIEW

Year Sub-Committee Responsible

2025 Staff and Parents & Friends (P&F)