



ST COLUMBA'S

PRIMARY SCHOOL WILSTON

SCHOOL POLICY

SUN PROTECTION

Policy Statement

The St Columba's Primary School Sun Protection Policy outlines measures to protect students and staff against over exposure to ultraviolet radiation and promotes sun safety strategies to students, staff and the wider school community.

Related documents include the Workplace Health and Safety Act 2011 (Qld); Schools Sun Smart Policy Guidelines, and Qld Cancer Fund Department of Education and Training: Guidelines for Developing a Sun Safety Strategy

Healthy physical environment

Seek shade

- Provide a variety of shade (i.e. built, natural and portable) in all areas where students congregate including areas for lunch, outdoor teaching and sport.
- Encourage students to use available shade.
- Consider shade availability when planning all outdoor events and excursions.
- Conduct regular shade assessments to determine future needs.
- On high UV days, PE lessons will be moved to the Under Cover Area (UCA).

Healthy social environment

Slip on sun protective clothing

- School uniforms follow SunSmart recommendations, including shirts with collars and sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts.
- Compulsory rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.

Slap on a hat

- Students are to wear the school's broad brimmed hats for outdoor activities. These cover the face, neck and ears. Peak caps and visors are not considered a suitable alternative.
- Students are encouraged to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard AS1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2,3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

Slop on sunscreen

- The only sunscreen supplied at St Columba's Primary School is the Ultra Sunscreen SPF 50+ from the Cancer Council Queensland range.
- Each class will be supplied with their own bottle of sunscreen and an additional bottle will be available in the Administration Office. This product will be taken to sporting events.
- Details of this particular cream will be made available on the school portal. This will ensure that parents have the opportunity to check that their child is not allergic to this product. If a child has an allergy to any sunscreens, parents will be required to supply their own sunscreen.
- Encourage students to apply sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors and to reapply every 2 hours when outdoors for extended periods.

Responsibilities

Responsible for:	School Leadership	School Staff	Parents	Students
Regularly reinforce and promote SunSmart behaviour to the whole school community	✓			
Monitoring and evaluating the policy every three years to assess progress on implementation and action plans	✓			
Planning for the ongoing installation and maintenance of sun safe facilities.	✓			
Including the Sun Safe Policy in the Staff Handbook.	✓			
Familiarising themselves with this policy and reinforcing and modelling sun safe messages with students.		✓	✓	✓
Undertaking education programs and maintaining their knowledge of risks associated with UV exposure.		✓	✓	
Incorporating and promoting sun safety messages into the curriculum, as appropriate.	✓	✓		
Being positive role models for students by wearing SunSmart hats, clothing and sunglasses, applying SPF50+ sunscreen and seeking shade whenever possible.	✓	✓	✓	
Ensuring that students have access to sunscreen in their classrooms.		✓		
Ensuring that sun safe practices are included in all outdoor activities, including taking a bottle of sunscreen on outdoor excursions and sporting events and wearing sunglasses wherever possible.		✓	✓	
Ensuring that students are wearing a hat when outdoors. Staff are to reinforce the “no hat no play” sun safety practice.		✓	✓	
Encouraging students to reapply sunscreen throughout the day.		✓	✓	
Reinforcing sun safe messages, such as the wearing of hats and sunscreen.		✓	✓	
Ensuring that their children come to school wearing the school sun safe hat			✓	✓
The application of sunscreen prior to students arriving at school.			✓	✓
Taking responsibility for their own health and safety, and acting as positive role models for others by adopting sun safe behaviours.	✓	✓	✓	✓
Wearing their school hat when outside at all times.				✓
For reapplying sunscreen throughout the day.				✓

Enforcement and Compliance

This policy is enforced to uphold the safety standards of our school community. Compliance is expected from all parents, staff, visitors and volunteers to ensure the well-being of our students and staff.

Review and Adoption

This policy is effective immediately upon adoption by the school administration and will be reviewed periodically to ensure its alignment with safety protocols and regulatory guidelines. Any necessary revisions will be communicated to all stakeholders promptly.

Approval and Review Details

Approval and Review			
Prepared By	Parent Representatives, WHSO Peter Maynard and School Principal Andrew Oberthur.		
Approved By	School Leadership Team		
Endorsed By	St Columba's School Board	Date:	April 2024
Next Review Date	April 2027		