

	<p style="text-align: center;">FRANKSTON PRIMARY SCHOOL</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Sun Smart Policy</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Reviewed 2025</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Next Review: 2028</p>
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Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school office on 9783 3769.

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to support protection behaviours at Frankston Primary School to minimise risk of health problems from sun overexposure, including skin cancer.

This policy provides guidelines to:

- support staff and students to use a combination of sun protection measures when UV index levels are 3 or above (generally mid-August – end of April in Victoria)
- ensure that there are outdoor environments that provide adequate shade for students and staff
- ensure students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills to help them to be responsible for their own protection
- support our school's strategies to meet its duty of care and occupational health and safety obligations to minimise harmful UV exposure and associated harm for students and staff.



Scope

This policy applies to all school activities on and off-site, including camps and excursions. It is applicable to all students and staff.

Implementation

Overexposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation can cause health problems including sunburn, damage to skin and eyes, and an increased risk of skin cancer. UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is strongly associated with an increased risk of skin cancer later in life.

UV radiation:

- cannot be seen or felt
- can be reflected off surfaces such as buildings, asphalt, concrete, water, sand and snow
- can pass through light clouds
- varies in intensity across the year (highest in Victoria from mid-August – end of April in Victoria)
- peaks during school hours.

Sun safety is a shared responsibility and staff, parents and students are encouraged to implement a combination of sun protection measures whenever UV levels reach 3 or above. Information about the daily local sun protection times is available via the free SunSmart app, or at sunsmart.com.au or bom.gov.au.

Frankston Primary School has the following measures in place for all outdoor activities during the daily sun protection times to help reduced the risk of over-exposure to UV radiation for and students.

Shade

Frankston Primary School provides sufficient options for shelter and trees to provide shade on school grounds. These include:

- Natural and undercover shade on the top level of the school in popular play areas.
- Some natural shade can be found on the bottom areas of the school ground under trees and within the sensory garden area.

Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outdoors, particularly if they do not have appropriate hats.

When building works or grounds maintenance is conducted at Frankston Primary School that may impact on the level of shading available to staff and students, a review of the shaded areas available will be conducted and further shading installed as appropriate.

Sun protective uniform/clothing

Frankston Primary School's school uniform includes sun-protective clothing:

- loose, cool, closely woven fabric
- shirts with a collar and/or high necklines
- tops with elbow length or long sleeves
- longer style shorts and skirts

Frankston Primary School's uniform applies on and off-site unless otherwise advised. When students are not required to wear school uniform (such as school camps or free dress days), Frankston Primary School will communicate with parents and students to encourage students to wear sun-protective clothing whenever UV levels reach 3 or above.

Hats

From mid-August (exact date to be set by the school annually) to 30 April, all students **must** wear a sun protective hat that shades the face, neck and ears for all outdoor activities. Hats may also be worn for all outdoor activities outside of the August to April time period, by parent or student choice.

Baseball or peaked caps and sun visors are not considered a suitable alternative, as they do not protect the ears, cheeks or neck.

Students are required to wear a school hat broad-brimmed hat when outdoors. Students who are not wearing appropriate protective clothing or a hat may be asked to play in the shade or in a suitable area protected from the sun.

Staff are required to wear a broad-brimmed hat.

Sunscreen

Frankston Primary School encourages all staff and students to apply SPF50 or SPF50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen daily whenever UV levels reach 3 and above. Sunscreen should be applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors, and reapplied every two hours according to [manufacturer's instructions](#).

Classroom and Specialist Teachers will remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.

Frankston Primary school supplies SPF50 or SPF50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for staff and students to use and is readily accessible within each classroom and the staffroom.

Staff and students who may suffer from skin reactions from certain types of sunscreen are encouraged to contact the Principal to discuss implementation of a plan to reduce the risk of a sunscreen reaction at school, such as families sending their child to school with a suitable alternative sunscreen.

Sunglasses

Where practical Frankston Primary School encourages students and staff engaged in outdoor activities to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

Curriculum

Students at our school are encouraged to make healthy choices and are supported to understand effects of sun exposure through relevant learning opportunities within Health and PE lessons.

Staff are encouraged to access resources, tools, and professional learning to enhance their knowledge and capacity to promote sun smart behaviour across the school community.

Staff role-modelling and OHS

Staff are encouraged to access resources, tools, and professional learning to enhance their knowledge and capacity to promote sun smart behaviour across the school community.

UV radiation exposure is considered as part of our school's risk management and assessment for all outdoor events and activities, i.e. UV radiation protection strategies are included in school camp activities, excursions, sports days and interschool sports events.

Families and visitors

Families and visitors participating in and attending outdoor school activities are encouraged to:

- wear a sun-protective hat, covering clothing and, if practical, sunglasses;
- apply SPF50 or SPF50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen; and
- seek shade whenever possible when outdoors.

Community engagement

Sun protection behaviour is regularly promoted to the whole school community through the newsletter, student and teacher activities and through staff meeting briefings.

Communication

This policy will be communicated to our school community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Reminders in our school newsletter
- Hard copy available from school administration upon request

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

the Department's Policy and Advisory Library:

- [Sun and UV Protection Policy](#)
- [Heat Health](#)
- [Outdoor Activities and Working Outdoors](#)
- [Risk Management – Schools](#)
- [Shade Sails](#)
- [Student Dress Code](#)

REVIEWED	2025
CONSULTATION	School Council – June 2025
PRINCIPAL	Renée Kennedy
APPROVED	School Council – June 2025
EVALUATION	This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's review cycle, or as required due to changes in relevant Acts, Laws, DE mandates, or should situations arise that require earlier consideration.