

Rationale

Bannockburn College's SunSmart policy has been developed to ensure some sun exposure for Vitamin D, while minimising the risks associated with over exposure to ultraviolet rays for students and staff. It is implemented from September to April (inclusive) or any day where the UV is 3 or greater.

Aims

- To develop in the Bannockburn College Community a positive approach to SunSmart behaviour.
- To ensure that Bannockburn College operates on a daily basis to allow students, staff and visitors to practise appropriate SunSmart behaviours, which includes exposure to the sun in a controlled way to access an individual's daily Vitamin D requirements.

Implementation

As part of general SunSmart strategies the school will:

Behaviour

- Require children to wear broadbrim school hats which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside (eg recess, lunch, sport, excursions). Staff need to be in a broad brimmed hat also.
- Children and staff are encouraged to wear Australian Standard Approved sunglasses. These are available from the office for students.
- The school uniform includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.
- Students without a suitable hat or covering clothing will be restricted to a shady veranda area while outside or not permitted to exit the school for outdoor excursions.
- Work with the parent community to ensure that SPF 30+ (or higher) broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreens are utilised at home.
- Encourage the daily application of sunscreen before school and prior to the lunch break. A supply will be available in every learning space and in every first aid kit (for off-site activities). 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).
- With Parent consent, students with naturally very dark skin are not required to wear sunscreen to help with vitamin D requirements.
- Encourage students to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.
- Encourage staff and parents to act as role models by practising SunSmart behaviours.
- Ensure signs are displayed in every classroom reminding children to practise SunSmart procedures.

Curriculum

- Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention and vitamin D into the curriculum at all grade levels.
- Regularly reinforce SunSmart behaviour in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.
- Ensure the SunSmart policy is reflected in the planning of all outdoor events (eg camps, excursions, sporting events).
- Provide access to the SunSmart app on the intranet and school website.

Environment

- Organise outdoor activities to be held in areas with plenty of shade whenever possible.
- Work towards increasing the number of shade areas so as to provide adequate shade in the playground

Evaluation

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four year review cycle
- Review the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents and visitors and make recommendations for improvement.
- Assess shade provision and usage and make recommendations for increases in shade provision.
- Update and promote curriculum material relevant to SunSmart activities.
- This policy was last updated on **December 2018** and is scheduled for review in **December 2022**.