



MELBA COLLEGE SUNSMART POLICY

RATIONALE:

Over exposure to the sun presents a serious health risk. Adolescence is a critical period in which sun exposure is likely to contribute to the incidence of skin cancer and eye damage. Approximately 75% of all skin cancers could be prevented by practicing sun protection during childhood and adolescence. Students must therefore be educated as to the need for suitable sun protection, and they must be protected from over exposure to the sun whilst at school.

GUIDELINES

- To increase student and community awareness of skin cancer and other damage caused by UV radiation.
- To work towards a safe school environment that provides shade and other sun protective measures for the entire school community.
- To encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures.
- To ensure that families and new staff are informed of the school's sun protection policy.

IMPLEMENTATION:

- All students and staff are encouraged to wear hats close fitting, wraparound sunglasses (AS 1067) and protective clothing when participating in outdoor activities at school during high risk periods (Term 1 & 4).
- Broad spectrum SPF 30+ water resistant sunscreen will provided for PE & Sport classes and for Interschool Sport competitions.
- All camps programs and outdoor events or excursions during high risk periods will require students to wear hats and sunscreen (Term 1 & 4).
- Information regarding sunscreen and its correct use will be provided to the community via the college health programmes.
- Consideration to sun protection will be given when planning all outdoor events including assemblies, excursions and sporting events.
- School council will plan for, and provide adequate shade structures for students as practicable.
- Students will be encouraged to utilise shade when outside during terms 1 and 4.

RELATED POLICIES & LINKS:

- First Aid Policy
- Medications Policy
- Camps and Tours Policy
- Excursions Policy
- Emergency Management Policy
- <http://www.ambulance.vic.gov.au/>

Prepared By:	Submission to Council	Review Date:
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