



DARAMALAN COLLEGE

SUNSMART (SKIN PROTECTION)

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Related Policy

Work Health and Safety Policy

Rationale

Given Australia's high rates of skin cancer and sun-related illness, this policy aims to minimise excessive exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation while still allowing students and staff to safely participate in outdoor learning, sport, recreation, and school activities. The policy promotes a balanced approach to sun safety that supports health, wellbeing, and active participation in school life.

Students and staff are at times exposed to the sun throughout their normal school day activities. The College is committed to implementing practices that encourage personal responsibility for self-protection, and which will reduce the risk of sunburn and sun cancer which, in the context of workplace health and safety, are in the category of foreseeable risks.

Policy

In providing a safe environment for staff and students, Daramalan College aims to ensure that, as far as possible, foreseeable risks are avoided, and staff and students are protected from excessive exposure to the sun through sensible precautions. Therefore, all staff and students are strongly encouraged to adequately protect themselves from the sun at school and when involved in excursions, camps and other outdoor activities.

Procedures

The College has areas that provide shade within the school grounds.

Educational programs, focusing on skin cancer prevention, are incorporated into the school curriculum where appropriate.

The school encourages positive role modelling of Sunsmart behaviour by staff. Staff are encouraged to wear broad brimmed hats for outdoor activities, including playground supervision.

The school uniform articles available to students include shirts with collars and the dress, skirts and shorts are to be worn to the knee.

Students are encouraged to:

- wear the uniform PE hat or cap when engaged in outside activities
- use personal broad-spectrum 50+ sunscreen when outdoors
- utilise shaded areas during breaks

Sunscreen is made available:

- for students in the PE staffroom
- at various locations around the school for students during breaks, including First Aid and Reception

As part of the Health and Physical Education Program staff and students:

- are strongly encouraged to wear hats when appropriate, particularly in Terms 1 and 4
- have access to sunscreen SPF 50+
- recognise high risk sun exposure times of 11.00am – 3.00pm (EST) in Terms 1 and 4 or when UV levels are three or above and plan accordingly
- use shaded areas and indoor venues whenever possible and appropriate
- are informed of the risks of excessive sun exposure

A copy of the Health and Physical Education Policy is available on each class Daranet page and includes a statement outlining the Physical Education Department's expectation that students are strongly encouraged to wear a Daramalan hat during PE lessons, particularly throughout Terms 1 and 4.

The staff who organise camps or excursions work to minimise sun exposure through:

- selection of venues and variety in venues, eg indoor and outdoor activities, shade and non-shaded areas used for activities
- encouraging sun protective clothing to be included in the student equipment list
- negotiating with outside providers to ensure activities and instruction allow for adequate sun protection
- addressing heat related illnesses in the risk management plan
- providing First Aid kits that include sunscreen

As part of the College Carnival Sports Days, the convenors work to ensure that sun exposure can be minimised through:

- selection of venues where adequate shade is available
- providing access to sunscreen and actively promoting its use
- encouraging the wearing of sun protective clothing, particularly during the swimming carnival
- addressing heat related illnesses in the risk management plan

As part of the College Sports Clubs practices, the Sports clubs endeavour to:

- provide shade options for spectators and players during summer sports
- comply with sports associations regulations regarding the wearing of sun protective clothing including hats

Approved by:	College Executive
Contact Staff Member:	AP Pastoral Care
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