

Sun Safety Policy

Rationale

Year-round sun protection is important for all children and young people in Queensland as research demonstrates that high ultraviolet radiation (UVR) exposure in childhood and adolescence significantly increases the risk of developing skin cancer.

Our school aims to educate our students about being sun safe in order to develop important, life-long, healthy habits, and acknowledges the important role adults play during and outside school hours to reinforce sun safety with children and young people.

In implementing this policy, our school and community recognise that:

- the policy applies to all school and school-related activities and events;
- the strategies are to be implemented during the whole school day and year-round; and
- a combination of sun safe strategies is more effective than a single approach.

Date of commencement: March 2024

Review date: February 2025

Indooroopilly State High School aims to minimise the exposure of its students and staff to harmful UV radiation from the sun through:

- implementation of sun safe dress standard;
- providing appropriate and sufficient shade facilities;
- education within the curriculum to develop awareness and foster self-responsibility for skin cancer prevention and early detection.

A proactive risk management system ensuring sun protection is managed effectively for all school activities.

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
<p>Clothing requirements</p>	<p>Indooroopilly State High School is a non-uniform school with student dress standard approved by our Parents and Citizens' Association.</p> <p>The policy provides a framework for an acceptable standard of dress that promotes a quality learning environment for students and staff and the good image of the school in the community. In developing the Student Dress Standard Policy, consideration has been given to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Our school values • Queensland Health Sun Safe policy; • Workplace Health and Safety considerations; • Suitability of clothing for a learning environment or workplace.

Uncontrolled copy. Refer to the Department of Education Policy and Procedure Register at <https://ppr.qed.qld.gov.au/pp/sun-safety-in-state-schools-procedure> to ensure you have the most current version of this document.

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
	<p>Students choosing to attend this school and enjoy its non-uniform dress standard accept that it is the Principal's responsibility to arbitrate in ensuring that clothing meets appropriate workplace standards as well as our school values, specifically, <i>Each person's dignity</i> and <i>Quality learning</i>. (see https://indoorooshs.eq.edu.au/our-school/policies/student-dress-standard-policy)</p> <p>Hats</p> <p>Students should wear appropriate hats when outdoors. The only exceptions when playing sport are when a hat reduces visibility or interferes with activity skills and therefore pose a risk to students' safety; or when wearing a hat is not possible because other headwear is required to be worn for religious or safety reasons. Under these circumstances, students may remove their hats for the duration of the activity, ensuring they have applied sunscreen to uncovered skin (ideally 20 minutes) prior to participating.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hats and sunscreen should be worn at all times when participating in Health and Physical Education (HPE) and sport activities. (ISHS Dress Standard) • Staff remind students to wear hats before and during lunch breaks, and to and from outdoor activities. • Students who do not have hats are encouraged to play in the shade or an area protected from the sun. • Spare clean school hats are available for students to borrow if they forget their hat for HPE activities. <p>Swim shirts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Students should wear swim shirts/rash vests during all water-based activities occurring at outdoor venues, except during their race/s at competitions and carnivals.
Shade provision and use	<p>Our school maximises the use of available shade for outdoor activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sports activities are rotated during the week between the classroom and outdoors. • Temporary shade structures are used as necessary for outdoor events, for example, UN Day, Athletics Carnival, Year 7 Preview Morning, Cross Country
Education	<p>Our school provides educational programs on sun safety and preventative measures through the following strategies:</p> <p>Curriculum, teaching and learning</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sun safety is formally taught as part of the implementation of the Australian Curriculum through Health and Physical Education • Staff include the risk of exposure to UVR in their curriculum activity risk assessments for outdoor activities, which includes ensuring that adequate shade is available for outdoor activities where possible, for example, using temporary shade structures. <p>Incidental teaching and promoting sun safe behaviours</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Incidental teaching of personal sun safety strategies occurs in all year levels as part of the school routine on a regular basis, for example, through reminders to students to wear hats and apply sunscreen. <p>Staff professional development</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff are informed about the school's Sun Safety Policy and its requirements on induction.

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Sunscreen provision	<p>Our school recognises the importance of sunscreen use as a sun safe measure and implements the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The school supplies SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for student use. • Parents/Carers are encouraged through social media and newsletter items to have their children apply sunscreen before school. • Parents/Carers are encouraged to provide sunscreen for their child if they don't wish their child to use the school's sunscreen.
Modelling sun safe behaviours	<p>Our school promotes the importance of Parents/Carers, teachers, ancillary staff, volunteers and other adult supervisors as role models for students using the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Staff and P&C members are encouraged to consider the use of shade, sun safe hats and clothing, sunglasses and sunscreen when doing their duties, running outside activities, and when on excursions/camps. • Parents/Carers are encouraged to have their children apply sunscreen before they come to school and provide personal sunscreen for their children to use at school.
Cost considerations	<p>The department provides funding for sun safety using the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School funding is allocated annually to enable the purchase of sunscreen for students across the whole school for the whole school year. • Costs for sunscreen will be recovered in line with the Requests for Voluntary Financial Contributions procedure.
Additional strategies	<p>Other strategies our school uses to be sun safe include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunscreen stations are set up at sports carnivals, swimming carnivals. • School funding is allocated to provide additional shade areas. • Recent building constructions provided for under cover seating areas.

Implementation

- the school will inform Parents/Carers of the Sun Safety Policy when a student enrolls.
- the Sun Safety Policy will be available on the school website.
- the school will seek ongoing support from Parents/Carers for the policy and its implementation through various communications, eg newsletter.
- all Staff will be informed of the Sun Safety Policy at Staff Meetings.
- incorporate education programs that focus on skin cancer prevention into the school curriculum.

Expectations of Students

Students should:

- be aware of the school's Sun Safety Policy;
- wear a hat when outdoors and during school-related activities, eg excursions/camps;
- take responsibility for their own health and safety by being sun-safe, and comply with school requirements and using 30+ sunscreen and wearing a hat where possible;
- when practicable, use shaded or covered areas when outdoors;
- act as positive role models for other students in all aspects of sun-safe behaviour;
- participate in sun-safe education programs.

Expectations of Staff


Staff should:

- carry out risk assessment for any outdoor activity and/or follow the UV protection controls established in the risk management plan;
- remind students of sun-safe behaviour as required;
- act as good role models with respect to sun-safe behaviour.

Expectations of Parents

Parents should:

- provide the components of the school's sun-safe uniforms for their student, including the appropriate hat;
- provide their student with adequate 30+ broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen, and encourage them to use it;
- act as positive role models by practising sun-safe behaviour;
- support the school's Sun Safety Policy.

<p>Endorsed by:</p> <p> Maryanne Jardine, P&C President</p> <p> Deirdre Hall, Staff representative</p>	<p>Approved by:</p> <p> Michael Hornby, Executive Principal</p> <p>Date of approval: March 2024</p>
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