



KVPS SUNSMART POLICY 2020

PURPOSE:

The purpose of this policy is to encourage behaviours at **Kilberry Valley Primary School** to minimise the risk of skin and eye damage and 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)
- ✚ 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, including camps and excursions. It is applicable to all students and staff.

POLICY:

Excessive exposure 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 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)
- ✚ 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 and above (typically from mid-August to the end of April in Victoria). Information about the daily local sun protection times is available via the SunSmart widget on the school's website, the free SunSmart app, or at sunsmart.com.au or bom.gov.au.

Kilberry Valley Primary School has the following measures in place to help reduce the risk of excessive UV sun exposure for staff and students.

Shade






Kilberry Valley Primary School will provide sufficient options for shelter and trees to provide shade on school grounds, particularly in places such as:

- ✚ 3 outdoor undercover eating areas
- ✚ 3 undercover playground areas
- ✚ Undercover Basketball court
- ✚ Rotunda

When building works or grounds maintenance is conducted at **Kilberry Valley 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

Kilberry Valley's school uniform and dress code includes sun-protective clothing, including:

-  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/dresses
-  broad rimmed hat

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.

Students are required to wear a school hat or another hat style that protects the face, neck and ears when outdoors, for example broad-brimmed. Students who are not wearing appropriate protective clothing or a hat will be asked to play in the designated shaded area.

Sunscreen

Kilberry Valley encourages all staff and students to apply SPF30 (or higher) 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](#).

Staff and families should role model SunSmart behaviour and are encouraged to apply SPF 30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen when outside.

Curriculum



Students at our school are encouraged to make healthy choices, and are supported to understand the benefits and risks of sun exposure. **Kilberry Valley Primary School** will address sun and UV safety education as part of our health units

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.

Engaging students, staff and families

SunSmart behaviour is reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school website, and school assemblies,

FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES:

-  the Department's Policy Advisory Library:
 - [Sun and UV Protection Policy](#)
 - [Duty of care](#)
-  [SunSmart](#)

EVALUATION:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle, or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

THIS POLICY IS AVAILABLE ON THE FOLLOWING PLATFORMS:

School website, Policies folder on Sentral and Kilberry Valley Primary School Council Policy Records

Date Implemented	20/10/2020
Author	Wellbeing Team
Approved By	Kilberry Valley Primary School Council
Approval Authority (Signature & Date)	
Date Reviewed	14/10/2020
Responsible for Review	Wellbeing Team
Review Date	September 2023

FEEDBACK:

Kilberry Valley Primary School staff and parents/carers may provide feedback about this documents by emailing Kilberry.valley.ps@edumail.vic.gov.au