



# Sun Protection Policy

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## Policy

The Beehive Montessori School is committed to offering students and staff reasonable protection from the dangers of exposure to the sun. The School aims to be a 'Sun Smart' school (registered with the Cancer Council of WA) and minimise UV exposure for students and staff.

## Background

The Cancer Council of WA reports that Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world and that childhood sun exposure is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer. Sun protection is recommended when the UV index is 3 or above. The UV forecast (not the temperature) should be used as the guide when assessing the level of sun protection required, as it is the UV radiation that damages the DNA in skin cells. In Perth this occurs all year except possibly in June and July. As the students and staff are at School during times when UV radiation levels are highest, the School can play a major role in minimising UV exposure.

The implementation of this policy is based on the recommendations of the Cancer Council of Western Australia and the Western Australia Department of Health.

## Implementation

1. Students shall have their shoulders covered and wear the School's hat at all times when outdoors, except with teacher discretion during June and July when the UV index is below 3.
2. 'No sun-safe hat - stay in the shade' policy shall apply.
3. Students shall leave their hats at School and use as required by teachers.
4. Staff shall also wear hats all year round, when outdoors except during the months of June and July when the UV index is below 3.
5. Students and staff are encouraged to apply sunscreen before coming to School, before lunch, before sport and any other outdoor activities.
6. Sunscreen (SPF 50+) shall be available in every classroom.
7. Teachers shall supervise the application of sunscreen in Junior Primary.
8. Areas of shade shall be provided at School during outdoor play.
9. Students shall be taught sun-safe practices as part of their health education.

## Related Documents and Resources

[Cancer Council WA Sun Smart Primary School Resources](#)

Student Health Policy

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