



Policy Name	Sun Protection Policy
Related Policies and Legislation	
Policy Category	Student Wellbeing & Safety Staff Wellbeing & Safety
Relevant Audience	All Treetops Community
Date of Issue / Last Revision	16 August 2012 21 May 2015
Date Set for Review	May 2018
Person/s Responsible for Review	Treetops Administration

Sun Protection Policy

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Research indicates that childhood sun exposure is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer later in life. As students are at school during times when UV radiation levels are highest, schools play a major role in creating a supportive environment that minimises exposure and encourages sun protective behaviours. The sun protection practices outlined in this policy will be applied to all school activities, including sports carnivals, excursions and camps.

Sun Protection Practices

- Treetops Montessori School has a strict 'no hat, no play' policy in operation all year round, for all students. It is requested that each child keeps a labelled hat at school. There is also a supply of sunscreen in every classroom which is applied before prolonged activity outside.
- All students without hats will be required to spend playtime in a designated shaded area (such as the Undercover Area).
- The 'Undercover Area Duty Teacher' will ensure the office is made aware of any children who did not have a hat. After 3 consecutive occasions an email/letter will be sent home by Admin.
- Treetops will inform parents of this sun protection policy when they enrol their child/children.
- Students are required to wear hats, sun protective clothing and sunscreen for all camps, sports and excursions. These items will be listed on the parent permission form.

- Ensure there is adequate provision of shade within the school grounds for students and staff, by planting trees and building shade structures. Particularly in areas where students congregate, for example, lunch, canteen, outdoor lesson areas.
- Encourage staff and students to use shaded or covered areas when outside.
- Ensure adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- Consideration is given to sun protection for all staff involved in outdoor activities, including playground duty. Physical education and sport education teachers are required to take appropriate sun protection measures as they are particularly at risk from UV radiation.
- Ensure that assemblies are held either indoors, in shade or outside when the UV Index is below 3.
- Promotion of sun protection will occur throughout the year via assemblies, newsletters, staff and parent meetings.
- Incorporate sun protection and skin cancer awareness programs into the appropriate Key Learning Areas of the school curriculum.
- Review the sun protection policy annually.

Resources Available for Schools

Cancer Council Western Australia has many videos and teaching resources available for loan and/or purchase. Resources can be viewed at:

<http://www.cancerwa.asn.au/resources/publications/prevention/>

or the Resource Officer can be contacted on 9388 4333 or resourceofficer@cancerwa.asn.au.

The website www.generationsunsmart.com is designed for primary, secondary and early childhood teachers, school health nurses and secondary school students. It is aimed at learning about skin cancer, being SunSmart and how to incorporate sun protection strategies into your day to day school activities. Teachers and nurses get a free resource and certificate upon completion also.

Many online resources for all ages can be accessed through www.sunsmart.com.au Including:

www.sunsmartmillionaire.com.au

www.sunsmartposter.com.au

www.sunsmart.com.au/shading-audit/intro

For information on the SunSmart Schools program or assistance in sun protection policy development contact the SunSmart Education Coordinator on 9388 4351 or

sunsmart@cancerwa.asn.au.