

# Kenilworth State Community College Sun Protection Policy

## Aim

This policy aims to protect all staff, students, contracted services, parents, families and volunteers of Kenilworth State Community College from the harmful effects of UV radiation exposure.

## Involvement

This policy applies to all staff, students, visitors, contracted services, families and volunteers of Kenilworth State Community College while on the premises and involved in excursions that require leaving the premises.

## Rationale

Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Skin cancers account for 80 per cent of all new cancers diagnosed each year in Australia, making it by far the most common type of cancer diagnosed.

Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun. UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is associated with an increased risk of skin cancer later in life. Given students and staff are at school during peak UV times, schools play a major role in providing an environment where policies and procedures can positively influence long-term SunSmart behaviour.

With this in mind, schools need to take into account the need to support students, staff, parents and visitors to the school by providing and promoting a SunSmart environment.

## Procedures

- The sun protection measures listed are to be used for all outdoor activities when UV is three and above. If daily sun protection times cannot be checked, please use sun protection all year round. Outdoor activities should be minimised between 10am – 3pm.

## Healthy physical environment

### 1. Seek shade

- Provide a variety of shade (i.e. built, natural and portable) in all areas where students congregate including areas for lunch, outdoor teaching and sport.
- Encourage students to use available shade.
- Consider shade availability when planning all outdoor events and excursions.
- Conduct regular shade assessments to determine future needs.

## Healthy social environment

### 2. Slip on sun protective clothing

- Our school uniforms are SunSmart as per Cancer Council Queensland recommendations. This includes shirts with collars and sleeves.
- Students must wear a rash vest or close fitting T-Shirt when participating in Swimming instruction.

### 3. Slap on a hat

- Kenilworth State Community College have school bucket hats that all children are required to wear.
- The school has a 'no hat, no play'

### 4. Slap on sunscreen

- SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is available to all students and all students are encouraged to supply their own sunscreen.
- Students are encouraged to apply sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors and to reapply every 2 hours when outdoors for extended periods.

## Learning opportunities

- Activities that promote sun protection is in the school Health curriculum for all year levels.

## Role modelling by staff

- Staff role model good sun protection behaviours when outside, including:
  - Wearing sun-safe hats, clothing and sunglasses.
  - Applying SPF30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen.
  - Seeking shade whenever possible.

## Engaging the school community

- Kenilworth State Community College encourages families and visitors to role model sun protection behaviours when involved in school activities.

## Policy Timing and Review

- This policy is effective from 4<sup>th</sup> June 2018 and will be reviewed every three years to ensure it remains current and practical.
- Policy updates and requirements will be made available to the school community.

Next policy review: \_\_\_4\_\_\_/\_\_\_6\_\_\_/\_\_\_2021\_\_\_