Policy reviewed: Sept 2016
Policy review Date: Aug 2017

The procedures outlines in this policy are for implementation during terms 1, 3 and 4. If there is an all-day outdoor activity in May, the UV is monitored and sun protection implemented when the UV is 3 and above. The sun protection times are available via the Sunsmart app or the Bureau of Meteorology website.

When the UV is 3 and below in term 2, sun protection is not required to support vitamin D maintenance.

1. VISION

1.1 This policy is consistent with Cancer Council SA SunSmart policy guidelines.

1.2 At East Marden we aim to promote positive attitudes among students, staff and parents towards skin protection and raise awareness of practices that can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and the number of related deaths.

1.3 We believe that our students need to be provided with the opportunity to develop the skills and knowledge to take personal responsibility for and decision-making about skin protection.

1.4 The safety and well-being of children attending our school is paramount and we aim to ensure all children attending East Marden are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultra-violet rays of the sun.

2. ACTION

2.1 The school will:

(a) Ensure that students wear hats which are appropriate and satisfy Cancer Council SA guidelines – that is, hats which protect the face, neck and ears, whenever they are outside.

(b) Students are encouraged to wear the school uniform which offers adequate protection from UV radiation through tops and dresses with collars, longer style sleeves and longer style shorts and pants.

(c) Students are actively encourage to apply SPF 30 or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen 20 mins before going outdoors and reapply every 2 hours when outdoors when the UV is 3 and above – Students are expected to come to school wearing sunscreen.

(d) Encourage students to use available areas of shade for outdoor play activities.

(e) Hold activities in areas of shade wherever possible, and schedule them outside of peak UV times of the day when the UV radiation levels will be at their highest.

(f) The availability of shade is considered when planning outdoor activities and events.

(g) Support students to wear wraparound UV protective sunglasses where practical when involved in outdoor activities.

(h) For OHS&W staff and parents/visitors are encourages to act as role models by practising SunSmart behaviours – wearing protective hats and clothing at all outdoor activities; using SPF 30+ or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen ; seeking shade whenever possible.
(i) Ensure that protection is available to students at sporting carnivals and outdoor events. A supply of SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen will be available for staff and student use on days where lengthy periods of exposure to the sun can be expected eg Sports Day, aquatics activities.

(j) Provide more shelter and shade trees.

(k) Require students to comply with the recommendations concerning protective clothing and hats for inclusion in outdoor play, sports, and excursions.

2.2 The SunSmart and skin cancer prevention programs will be incorporated into the school’s curriculum R-7.

2.3 All parents will be informed of the school’s Sunsmart policy and will be encouraged to provide appropriate protective clothing and hat and SPF 30+ sunscreen for their child’s use. Regular reinforcement of the SunSmart message will be provided in newsletters, parent meetings, school activities, the school website and the school phone app.

OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS

2.4 The school’s OSHC staff will follow this policy wherever possible. Due to the unique times of the day that OSHC and vacation care services operate, there are some differences in the practices required for sun protection.

2.5 Children are expected to come to vacation care wearing sunscreen from 1st August until 30th April. Sunscreen will be offered at 10.00am, 12.00pm, 2.00pm and 4.00pm during excursions and outdoor activities from 1st August until 30th April during Vacation Care. Students will apply the sunscreen.

2.6 Sunscreen will be offered at 3.15 pm during Terms 1 and 4 After School Care sessions. Students will apply the sunscreen.

2.7 Students will be required to wear broad-brimmed hats at all after school sessions from 1st August until 30th April.

2.8 Sun protection will not be required during before school care as the UV is rarely above 2 during this time.

3. REVIEW
To ensure continuous improvement, the policy will be reviewed every year in consultation with Cancer Council SA.