

**DYSART STATE HIGH SCHOOL**

**SUN SAFETY**

**POLICY**

**RATIONALE**

### At Dysart State High School we believe that all members of our school community (students, staff, parents, visitors) have the right to feel safe and valued. A component of this is to be provided with information, structures and planning revolving around Sun Safety.

### “Queensland has the highest incidence of skin cancer and melanoma in Australia and the world. Winter sun in Queensland is dangerous enough to cause sunburn and consequently contribute to skin cancer. Over exposure to the sun during childhood contributes to the development of skin cancers in later life. Melanoma can also occur as early as the teenage years.” (Queensland Cancer Council)

### As “students spend approximately 42 weeks of the year at school and are often exposed to the sun for lengthy periods at times when the UV radiation is at its strongest” (Queensland Cancer Council), we have a responsibility to develop and maintain appropriate Sun Safety Strategies so as all members of the school community will gain greater knowledge and awareness of the need to be “Sun Safe”.

**AIMS**

### Through the development and implementation of a shared Sun Safety Policy in a Supportive School Environment, we aim to create a positive and proactive attitude to Sun Safety amongst all members of the school community. Ultimately Sun Safety is a personal choice; we aim to develop life-long strategies and beliefs which will reduce the risks of skin cancer for the total school community.

**Sun Safety Strategies**

### Compulsory wearing of hats wide brimmed by all students, staff and volunteer helpers for any outdoor movement or activities where exposure to the sun is imminent and extended. E.g. moving between buildings which are not connected by a covered walkway.

### Compulsory wearing of collared shirts.

### Flexible planning encouraged to reduce exposure to the sun between 10:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m. where ever practical.

### Utilise a range of educational programs to reinforce and educate students re Sun Safety. E.g. Health and Phys. Ed., Queensland Cancer Council presentation, Sun Smart kits for Year 7 students

### Provide SPF 50+ broad spectrum sunscreen for use by the students, staff and volunteers.

### Encourage all school community members to utilise SPF 50+ broadspectrum sunscreens, SPF 50+ lip creams, zinc cream, etc. to all exposed areas of skin.

### Encourage students to play in shade areas whenever possible.

### Continue to review and plan play areas for the future.

### Reinforce the need for all school community members to be appropriate role models.

### Remind students to drink plenty of water as they can dehydrate quickly during hot weather.

**ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

### STUDENTS

### wear appropriate hats;

### wear appropriate clothing;

### utilise sunscreen;

### play in shade areas if possible;

### strive for sun safe practices.

### SCHOOL STAFF

### teach students about sun safe practices;

### model appropriate sun safe practices;

### wear appropriate hat and clothing;

### reinforce and encourage appropriate sun safe practices amongst other school community members, especially students;

### plan for outdoor activities with sun safety in mind (where ever practical);

### support the implementation of sun safety strategies.

### Ensure sunscreen is available for use

### PARENTS/ COMMUNITY

### model appropriate sun safe practices;

### wear appropriate hat and clothing;

### reinforce and encourage appropriate sun safe practices amongst other school community members, especially students;

### support the implementation of sun safety strategies;

### reinforce sun safe practices external to school.

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# nsure sunscreen is available for useREFERENCES AND POLICY SOURCE

### Queensland Cancer Council - Sun Safety Guidelines

### Queensland Department of Education - Sun Safety Strategies

### <https://education.qld.gov.au/initiatives-and-strategies/health-and-wellbeing/student-health-wellbeing/policy-procedures-guidelines/sun-safety-strategies>

### Queensland Government - Early Childhood Sun Safety

### Early childhood sun safetyhttps://www.health.qld.gov.au/public-ealth/schools/sun/early-childhood

### Sun safety learning resources – learning place

### https://staff.learningplace.eq.edu.au/searchcenter/pages/results.aspx?start=1&k=sun+safety