

Sun Protection Policy

Date Reviewed	21 st August 2019
Date Implemented	12 th March 2014
Author	Trish Bulluss
Approved By	College Council / Education sub-committee
Approval Authority (Signature & Date)	<i>Gail Hardman</i> 21/8/19
Responsible for Review	Assistant Principal – Wellbeing
Review Date	July 2022
References	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Education and Training Reform Act 2006: Sch.5 Reg. 1 (1.2) • Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 • The Compact: Roles and Responsibilities in Victorian government college education: Principle 3 (2012) • DEECD College Policy & Advisory Guide (SPAG) Sun & UV protection (2011) • DEECD Health, Safety & WorkCover • Victorian Early Years Learning and Development Framework (VEYLDF) • Building Quality Standards Handbook (BQSH): Section 8.5.5 Shade Areas (Oct 2011)

BASIC BELIEFS

A balance of ultraviolet radiation (UV) exposure is important for health. Too much of the sun's UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Sun exposure in the first 10 years of life is a major factor in determining future skin cancer risk.

Too little UV from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones and muscles, and for general health.

AIMS

- Encourage the entire college community to use a combination of sun protection measures (sun protective clothing and hats, sunglasses, sunscreen and shade).
- To increase student and community awareness of skin cancer and other damage caused by UV radiation.
- To work towards a safe college environment that provides shade and other sun protective measures for the entire college community.
- To ensure that families and new staff are informed of the College's Sun Protection Policy.

GUIDELINES FOR ACTION / IMPLEMENTATION

- Students will be required to wear College Council approved uniform, which includes; shirts and dresses with collars and broad brimmed hats for students in F-4 (at least 6 cm rigid brim) and bucket hats for students in 5-12 whenever they are outside between the months of September and April.
- Staff will act as role models by also wearing broad brimmed hats (at least 6cm rigid brim) or bucket hats whenever they are outside between the months of September and April.

- Appropriate College Council approved uniform hats for students will be readily available from the College for purchase.
- Staff members may wear broad brimmed hats of their own choosing so long as they have a 6cm or greater brim. Staff can choose to wear a College Council approved uniform hat (broad brimmed or bucket) if they wish.
- Students in Years 7 to 12 will be encouraged to utilise shade when outside from September to April, however, if they have chosen not to wear a hat and have not taken proper sun protection precautions, they will be directed to position themselves under the shade.
- Students in F-4 without broad brimmed hats and students in 5-6 without a bucket hat will be restricted to play in designated shaded areas.
- Although a uniform option, Seymour College caps are not considered a suitable alternative for a sun protection hat.
- Sunscreen will generally be applied by students themselves according to the manufacturer's directions, under the supervision of teachers. Teachers may apply sunscreen to very young or disabled students if necessary, if written parental approval is provided. The use-by date of sunscreen will be monitored and replaced when necessary.
- Broad spectrum SPF 50+ water resistant sunscreen will be readily available on excursions and camps and in staff areas for use by both students and staff.
- College Council also approves students wearing close fitting UV protection wrap around AS1067 sunglasses whenever they are outside.
- Whenever possible, outside activities on hot days will be scheduled before 11:00 am.
- Consideration to sun protection will be given when planning all outdoor events including assemblies, excursions and sporting events, and where possible events will be scheduled earlier in the morning, later in the afternoon or indoors.
- College Council will plan for, and provide adequate shade structures for students as practicable; particularly over high-density areas such as play areas, eating spaces and passive leisure locations. Temporary shade structures will be erected at events such as swimming and athletic sports, and shade will be a consideration when planning outdoor activities and excursions.
- Families and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures (sun protective clothing and hats, sunglasses, sunscreen and shade) when participating in and attending outdoor college activities.
- The college newsletter, college assemblies, college app, Facebook page and staff meetings will be used to highlight and reinforce the Sun Protection policy.
- The Sun Protection policy will appear in each edition of the student journal, in the staff information booklet, on the college's intranet and website and will form part of each staff member's induction program.
- Sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels, as will the monitoring of UV Alerts throughout the year.

EXPECTATIONS

- The College Council and staff regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of the Sun Protection policy (at least once every three years) and revise the policy when required.

1. This policy will be made available on the College's website.

2. This policy was ratified by College Council on

21/08/2019

Child Safe Standards

"Victorian government schools are child safe environments. Seymour College actively promotes the safety and wellbeing of all students, and all school staff are committed to protecting students from abuse or harm in the school environment in accordance with their legal obligations including the Child Safe Standards. The College's Child Safety Code of Conduct is available on the school's website."