



**Allendale
Primary School**
AN INDEPENDENT PUBLIC SCHOOL

(08) 9923 6600
allendale.ps@education.wa.edu.au
52 Wittenoom St, Geraldton WA 6530
PO Box 7215, Geraldton WA 6531
www.allendaleps.wa.edu.au



SunSmart
Sun Protection Policy

Allendale Primary School

Rationale

Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world. Exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation during childhood is a major risk factor in the development of skin cancer later in life. As students are at school during peak UV radiation times, schools play a vital role in providing a supportive environment that minimises sun exposure and promotes safe, sun-protective behaviours.

Our sun protection policy has been adopted to ensure that all students, staff, parents and visitors attending Allendale Primary are protected from skin damage caused by UV radiation from the sun. The sun protection practices outlined in this policy will be applied to all school activities, including sports carnivals, excursions and camps. The policy has been developed in consultation with the whole school community.

Our Commitment

Allendale Primary School will:

- Inform parents of this sun protection policy when they enrol their child/children.
- Brief all new staff on the sun protection policy.
- Promote sun protection via social media, assemblies, daily messages, whole school activities and parent and staff meetings.
- Require students to wear broad-brimmed or bucket hats when outside.
- Direct students without a broad-brimmed or bucket hat to stay in an area that is protected from the sun.
- Require staff to wear broad-brimmed or bucket hats for all outdoor activities, including yard duty.
- Encourage parents and guests to wear broad-brimmed or bucket style hats when participating in and attending outdoor school activities.
- Require students to wear broad-brimmed or bucket hats, sun protective clothing and sunscreen for all camps, sports events and excursions.
- Require staff and students to wear a swim (rash) top for swimming outdoors.
- Ensure there is adequate provision of shade within the school grounds for students and staff, by planting trees and building shade structures. Students to use shaded areas when eating lunch - undercover area near the canteen for junior classes and under trees and gazebos for senior classes.
- Encourage staff and students to use shaded or covered areas when outside.
- Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- Timetable as many outdoor activities as possible when the UV Index is below 3. When this is not possible, activities should be scheduled as far from 12 noon as possible.
- During lunch and recess times, students have access to the school library and undercover areas within the school. On very hot days, students have access to designated air-conditioned rooms, supervised by school staff.
- Encourage the use of SPF 50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen by:
 - providing sunscreen in classrooms, with duty teachers, and in the sports shed.
 - allowing students time to apply sunscreen 20 minutes prior to outdoor activities e.g. prior to school, before recess/lunch, PE lessons, sports, excursions etc.
- Incorporate sun protection and skin cancer awareness programs into the Health Learning Area of the school curriculum.
- Review the sun protection policy annually.





Our Expectations

Parents/carers will:

- Ensure your child/children has a broad-brimmed or bucket style hat. Cancer Council WA recommends the following hats:
 - broad-brimmed (7.5 cm brim)
 - bucket/surfie-style (6 cm brim)
- Ensure that your child/children's clothing provides adequate protection from UV radiation. Cancer Council WA recommends the following:
 - collars
 - closely woven fabric
 - natural fibre
 - swim (rash) tops for swimming
- Ensure that your child/children has/have access to SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen before leaving for school.
- Act as positive role models by practising SunSmart behaviour.
- Support the school's sun protection policy and help design and regularly update the policy.

Students will:

- Be aware of the school's sun protection policy.
- Take responsibility for their health by being SunSmart.
- Comply with SunSmart rules and guidelines by wearing suitable hats and clothing.
- Apply SPF30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors. (SPF 50 Sunscreen to be supplied by the school to each class.)
- Use shaded or covered areas outdoors.
- Act as positive role models for other students in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour.
- Be actively involved in initiatives to protect the school community from over-exposure to the sun.
- Participate in SunSmart education programs.

Evaluation

Allendale Primary School will review the effectiveness of this policy each year and make any necessary changes.

They will:

1. Review the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents, and visitors and make recommendations for improvement.
2. Assess shade provision and usage and make recommendations for increases in shade provision.

Signed: _____

Position: _____

Date: _____

