



Star of the Sea College

Sunsmart Policy

Star of the Sea College is a Catholic Independent Girls' school, founded by the Presentation Sisters in 1883. Since 2014, Star of the Sea College has operated under the auspices of Kildare Ministries.

At Star of the Sea College we hold the care, safety and wellbeing of our students as a central and fundamental responsibility of our College. Our commitment is drawn from, and inherent in, the teaching and mission of Jesus Christ, with love, justice and the sanctity of each human person at the heart of the gospel: *CECV Commitment Statement to Child Safety*:

The person of each individual human being, in his or her material and spiritual needs, is at the heart of Christ's teaching: that is why the promotion of the human person is the goal of the Catholic School (*Congregation for Catholic Education 1997, n.9*).

Rationale

Star of the Sea College is committed to providing a safe environment for students and staff. This commitment extends to ensuring that all students and staff are protected from over-exposure to the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun.

The College's expectations and practices regarding skin protection apply to all school activities including sports carnivals, excursions and camps. Compliance obligations will be heightened in Terms 1 and 4 in line with seasonal changes and the increased dangers of ultraviolet sunlight.

This policy applies to all staff and students at Star of the Sea College. It is to be read in conjunction with the College's related policies of *Occupational Health and Safety* and *Extreme Hot Weather*.

Principles

Star of the Sea College is committed to:

- increasing student and community awareness of skin cancer;
- developing strategies which encourage responsible decision-making about skin protection;
- implementing practical skin protection measures;
- working towards a safe school environment which provides shade for students and staff;
- expecting students and staff to wear protective clothing, hats and sunscreen for high-risk times such as lunch times, sports, excursions and camps.

Procedures

Expectations of Students

- All students are to wear protective hats that shade the face during sporting and other outside activities.
- Students are expected to apply at least SPF 30 broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen before all outdoor activity and re-apply every two hours.
- Suitable hats, clothing and sunscreen will be required for all camps and excursions. These items will be listed in the letter for the excursion.

Expectations of Staff

- All staff are encouraged to wear sunscreen, sunglasses and hats and on yard duty, sports days and excursions.
 - Physical education teachers and grounds staff are encouraged to wear sunscreen, sunglasses and hats on high risk days.
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- When planning outdoor activities, all staff are expected to model and promote practical skin protection measures.
- All staff are expected to be familiar with this Sunsmart Policy and ensure student compliance.

Physical Education and Sports Programs

- All students are expected to wear protective hats that shade the face during sporting and other outside activities.
- The PE/Sport faculty will maximise the use of indoor and shade facilities.
- In arranging swimming and athletics sports, consideration in the planning of the events will be given to minimising the UV risks for staff and students. Individual students participating in these activities will be given special consideration for shade if requested by them. The events may be postponed if the forecast temperature is 35° or more.

SunSmart Promotion and Education

- All new staff will be briefed on the SunSmart Policy as part of their induction to the College.
- The SunSmart Policy will be included as an agenda item for one staff meetings of each year.
- Provisions of the SunSmart Policy will be available on the College intranet.

Responsible Officer	Deputy Principal-Staff in November 2018
Approved By	
Approved and Commenced	November 2016
Review By	November 2020
Relevant Legislation	Education and Training Reform Act 2006 (Vic.)
Related Policies & Procedures	Catholic Education Melbourne Policies <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Policy 2.2: Guidelines Relating to the Employment of Staff• Worksafe: OHS in Schools. A practical guide for school leaders Extreme Weather procedures Medical Procedures and First Aid Policy Risk Management and Occupational Rehabilitation Program
Version	1
Amendments to Version	Reviewed 2018 Updated policy reference and reformatting