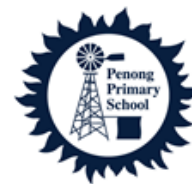


Penong Primary School

Respect Community Achievement



Government of South Australia
Department for Education



Sun Protection Policy

This policy applies to all school events on and off-site.

Rationale

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

Too little UV radiation from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones and muscles, and for general health. Sensible sun protection when UV is 3 and above does not put people at risk of vitamin D deficiency.

Objectives

This sun protection policy has been developed to:

- encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures.
- work towards a safe school environment that provides shade for students, staff and the school community at appropriate times
- assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection
- ensure families and new staff are informed of the school's sun protection policy.

PROCEDURES:

Policy Implementation

The school uses a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities during the year.

Sun Protection Measures

1. Hats

- Broad brimmed or bucket hats which protects the face ears and neck are worn all year round.
- Baseball hats are not acceptable

2. Clothing

Appropriate sun protective clothing is included in the school uniform/dress code.

- The clothing is cool, loose fitting and made of closely woven fabric.
- It includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves
- Rash tops or t-shirts must be worn over bathers for outdoor swimming, including for example, during swimming lessons and when participating in outdoor water activities during Aquatics.

3. Sunscreen

- Families and staff are asked to supply their own SPF 50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen.
- Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors
- Students are encouraged to apply sunscreen at home before school

4. Shade

- Students are actively encouraged to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.
- Students who are not wearing a hat or appropriate clothing are asked to play in the shade or return indoors.
- A shade audit is conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade, with the Governing Council ensuring there is a sufficient number of built and/or portable shade structures and shady trees providing shade in the school grounds, particularly in areas where students congregate e.g. outdoor lesson areas and popular play areas.
- If minimal shade is available, in consultation with the school council, shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds.

5. Staff WHS and role modelling

Staff will:

- wear sun protective hats, clothing and sunglasses when outside
- apply SPF 50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen
- Seek shade whenever possible.

Families and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures e.g. sun protective clothing and hats, sunglasses, sunscreen and shade, when participating in and attending outdoor school activities.

6. Learning and Development

- Programs on skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum for all year levels

7. Policy Promotion

- SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school homepage, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student, and teacher activities and in student enrolment packs.
- Policy is accessible on the school's website and all families and staff members are informed of the Policy and its contents annually.

Policy review

The school will review the policy regularly (at least every 3 years) and revise the policy when required.

The school will notify any relevant stakeholders should any significant policy updates be made (eg families, staff, Cancer Council SA).

Signed Karen Murray
Principal

Signed: Allison Shipard
Chairperson Governing Council

Reviewed August 2025

Next Review August 2028