



**SPRINGSURE**

**STATE**

**SCHOOL**

**SUNSMART POLICY**

## **Our Commitment**

Springsure State School will:

- Inform parents of the SunSmart policy when they enrol their child
- Include the SunSmart policy statement in the school Enrolment Package
- Increase the amount of shade in the school grounds, where possible, by building shelters and planting trees
- Incorporate education programs that focus on skin cancer prevention into the school curriculum
- Encourage all teachers and staff to act as positive role models for children in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour.
- Seek ongoing support from parents and the school community for the SunSmart policy and its implementation, through newsletters, parent meetings etc.
- Ensure that all students and staff wear hats that protect the face, neck and ears, and SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen, when involved in outdoor activities.
- Ensure students without adequate sun protection use covered areas at recess and lunch times.
- Review the school dress code to conform to the Queensland Cancer Fund SunSmart clothing guidelines.
- Incorporate a SunSmart swimsuit into the school uniform.
- Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and other outdoor events.
- Ensure that SPF 30+ Broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is included in the school sports kits.
- Review the SunSmart policy annually

## **Our Expectations**

Parents and carers will:

- Provide a SunSmart hat for their child and ensure that they wear it to and from school.  
The Queensland Cancer fund recommends the following hats:
  - 8-10cm broad brimmed
  - Legionnaire style
  - Bucket hats

## **SunSmart Policy Statement**

### **Rationale**

Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Of all new cancers diagnosed in Australia each year, 80% are skin cancers. Research suggests that at least two-thirds of all melanomas occurring in Australia could be prevented if children were protected from the sun during their first 15 years.

Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun. Research shows that severe sunburn contributes to skin cancer and other forms of skin damage such as sunspots, blemishes and premature ageing. Most skin damage and skin cancer is therefore preventable.

Ultraviolet radiation (UVR) levels are highest during the hours that children are at school. As children will spend a portion of their day outdoors, we are conscious about protecting them from the harmful effects of the sun.

With this in mind, Springsure State School realises the need to protect children's skin and educate them about SunSmart behaviour, thus reducing the risk of skin damage from exposure to the sun.

### **Aims**

The policy aims to:

- Provide ongoing education that promotes personal responsibility for skin cancer protection and early education.
- Provide environments that support SunSmart practices
- Create awareness to the need to reschedule work commitments and outdoor activities to support SunSmart practices.

### **Procedures**

Our school recognises that winter sun also contributes to skin damage. The implementation of this policy will therefore be conducted throughout the year.

The purpose of this SunSmart policy is to ensure that all children attending our establishment are protected from the harmful effects of the sun throughout the year.

- Ensure that their child applies SPF 30+broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before leaving for school
- Ensure that their children are wearing the correct school uniform which meets the Queensland Cancer Fund's recommendations for SunSmart clothing
- Act as positive role models by practising SunSmart behaviour and that support the school's SunSmart policy.

**Students will:**

- Be aware of the school's SunSmart policy
- Take responsibility for their own health and safety by being SunSmart.
- Comply with the SunSmart rules and guidelines by wearing the approved school uniform, sunscreen and sunglasses.
- Apply SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going out doors
- Use covered areas when outdoors
- Act as positive role models for other students on all aspects of SunSmart behaviour
- Participate in SunSmart education programs.

Considered and accepted by Principal

*R. Wilby*  
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Considered and accepted by Student Council

*Richardson*  
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Considered and accepted by P & C

*John*  
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