Our Lady Help of Christians Primary School

SUNSMART POLICY

Rationale:
Our SunSmart policy has been developed to ensure that all students and staff attending Our Lady Help of Christians are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun. The policy is to be implemented from September to the end of April when UV radiation is most intense.

Aims & Implementation

Behaviour
- All children are required to wear one of the Our Lady Help of Christians’ school hats (e.g. legionnaire hat) whenever they are outside (e.g. recess, lunch, sport, excursions).
- Staff are required to wear a sun hat whenever they are outside (e.g. recess, lunch, sport, excursions).
- Students and staff are to provide their own SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen.
- Children are reminded to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.
- A spare container of sunscreen is housed in the first aid room.
- Children and staff may wear sunglasses and if possible encouraged to wear wrap-around sunglasses.
- Students are encouraged to use the number of shelters and trees on the school grounds as shade protection at times when UV levels are high or when engaging in outdoor activities.
- Staff are requested and parents encouraged to act as role models by practising SunSmart behaviours.
- SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through assemblies and the school newsletter.

Curriculum
- Incorporate programs on the importance of vitamin D and SunSmart behaviours into the curriculum at all grade levels.
- Regularly reinforce SunSmart behaviour in a positive way through assemblies, newsletters, students and teacher activities etc.
- Ensure the SunSmart policy is reflected in planning all outdoor events (e.g. camps, excursions, sporting events)

Environment
- Provide sun protective clothing items as part of our school uniform.
- Staff are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times at sunsmart.com.au to assist when scheduling outdoor activities
- Planned outdoor activities are to be held in areas with plenty of shade whenever possible.

Evaluation:
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s review cycle.
We will:
- Review the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents, and visitors and make recommendations for improvement.
- Update and promote curriculum material to SunSmart activities.
- Investigate and make recommendations regarding UV levels and outdoor activities.

This policy was last ratified by OLIHC School Staff Term 1 2015

References: SunSmart Victoria