



# MOGGILL STATE SCHOOL

*An Independent Public School*

3417 Moggill Road | MOGGILL | QLD | 4070

Email: [principal@moggillss.eq.edu.au](mailto:principal@moggillss.eq.edu.au)

Phone: 3202 0444 | OSHC: 3202 5599

## SunSmart Policy

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

### 1. Background and Rationale

Queensland has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world. Due to the state's climate, children and staff are frequently exposed to high levels of ultraviolet (UV) radiation during the school day.

Skin damage, including skin cancer, results from cumulative exposure to UV radiation. Research shows that sunburn during childhood significantly increases the risk of developing skin cancer later in life. Most skin damage and skin cancers are preventable through effective sun protection.

Moggill State School recognises its duty of care and is committed to minimising exposure to harmful UV radiation by implementing evidence-based SunSmart practices and promoting lifelong sun-safe behaviours.

### 2. Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Reduce the risk of UV-related skin damage for students, staff, volunteers and visitors
- Ensure SunSmart practices are consistently applied across all school activities
- Support the development of lifelong sun-safe behaviours in line with Queensland Department of Education and Cancer Council Queensland recommendations

### 3. Involvement and Scope

**Policy development involved:**

- Principal and school leadership team
- Teaching and non-teaching staff
- Consultation with parents and carers via school communication channels

**This policy applies to:**

- All students, staff, volunteers and visitors
- All curriculum and non-curriculum activities, including play breaks, sport, excursions, camps and events
- All areas of the school grounds and any off-site locations where school activities are conducted

**Every Student, Every Day – Learning and Achieving**

Principal: Ms Nicole Trethewey

Deputy Principal: Mrs Christine Williams

Deputy Principal: Mrs Leanne Hilditch



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## 4. Procedures

### 4.1 Daily Sun Protection Times

To support implementation of this policy, staff are encouraged to check daily local sun protection times using:

- The SunSmart widget
- The SunSmart Global UV app
- [myUV.com.au](http://myUV.com.au)
- Bureau of Meteorology website

Sun protection measures outlined in this policy must be implemented for all outdoor activities when the UV Index is **3 or above (UV3+)**.

### 4.2 Scheduling of Outdoor Activities

Whenever practicable, outdoor activities are planned to minimise time outdoors during periods when UV levels are **high to extreme (UV6 or above)**. Where possible, activities are scheduled earlier or later in the day, or conducted indoors or in shaded areas.

### 4.3 Seek Shade

- Shade availability is considered during the planning of all outdoor activities, events and excursions
- Existing shaded areas are actively used for teaching, play and events
- Regular shade assessments are undertaken to inform future planning and development
- Temporary shade structures are provided where required, such as for sports carnivals and special events
- A variety of shade options – built, natural and portable are provided in all areas where children congregate, including lunch areas, outdoor teaching spaces and sport/activity zones.

### 4.4 Slip on Protective Clothing

- Students are expected to wear the approved school uniform, including shirts with sleeves
- A wide-brimmed school hat is required for outdoor activities unless students are under full shade
- Staff and visitors are encouraged to wear sun-protective clothing and hats
- Free dress days must comply with SunSmart clothing expectations

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## 4.5 Slop on Sunscreen

In line with current Cancer Council Australia advice (effective **1 August 2024**), SPF50 or SPF50+, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen is recommended.

- Sunscreen is made available for student and staff use
- Students and staff are encouraged to apply sunscreen **20 minutes before going outdoors**
- Teachers and supervisors implement reminders and routines to support sunscreen use
- Sunscreen should be **reapplied every two hours** during extended outdoor activities, or immediately after swimming, sweating or towel drying

## 4.6 Sport, Physical Education and Water Activities

- Hats are required for outdoor sport and HPE activities when not actively participating
- Rash vests are encouraged for swimming lessons and carnivals
- Sunscreen use is actively promoted for all outdoor sporting activities, excursions and events

## 5. Compliance

SunSmart expectations are implemented in a supportive and educational manner.

### Compliance flow:

1. **Reminder:** Staff provide a reminder and guidance (e.g. prompting a student to wear a hat or use shade).
2. **Adjustment:** If a hat is not available, the student participates in activities in shaded areas ("no hat, play in the shade").
3. **Follow-up:** Repeated non-compliance is addressed through normal school behaviour and wellbeing processes, including communication with parents/carers where required.

The focus of compliance is student safety, education and shared responsibility.

## 6. Education and Promotion

- SunSmart education is embedded within relevant curriculum areas, including Health
- Staff model positive SunSmart behaviours as part of professional expectations
- The policy is communicated to families through enrolment information, newsletters and the school website
- SunSmart messages are promoted through assemblies, social media and school communications

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- Teachers and staff are encouraged to complete Cancer Council's free online learning modules ("[Generation SunSmart](#)") to support ongoing professional learning in sun safety.

## 7. Engaging Families and the Wider School Community

- Families, volunteers and visitors are encouraged to support the school's SunSmart objectives.
- Parents, carers and visitors are encouraged to role model effective sun protection behaviours whenever they participate in, attend or supervise outdoor school activities.
- SunSmart expectations are communicated through newsletters, parent information materials, school events and digital platforms to promote consistent messaging across the school community.

## 8. Work Health and Safety

Sun protection is included as part of the school's work health and safety risk management processes. Staff are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures, including protective clothing, hats, sunscreen, sunglasses and shade, when undertaking outdoor duties.

## 9. Timing and Review

- **Effective date:** 25 February 2026
- **Initial review:** August 2026 (six months after implementation)
- **Ongoing review:** Annually thereafter

The Principal is responsible for ensuring this policy is implemented, monitored and reviewed in accordance with Queensland Department of Education expectations and Cancer Council Queensland recommendations.

## 10. Supporting Resources

- [Cancer Council Queensland – SunSmart Schools](#)
- [Queensland Government – Sun Safety Guidelines](#)

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