

Leda Education Support Centre

Sun Smart Policy

RATIONALE

Leda Education Support Centre understands that too much of the sun's UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Overexposure to the sun during childhood and adolescence is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer in later life. Our sun protection policy has been adopted to ensure that students, staff, parents and visitors attending Leda Education Support Centre are protected from skin damage caused by UV radiation from the sun.

CURRICULUM

- Programs on skin cancer prevention and vitamin D are included in the curriculum for all year levels.
- SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school website, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and on student enrolment.
- Sun protection is used from September to the end of April each year.

SUN PROTECTION

Shade

- The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and other outdoor activities.
- Children who do not have the appropriate hats or outdoor clothing are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.
- Administration makes sure there is a sufficient number of shelters and trees providing shade in the outdoor area.
- A shade audit is conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade.

Clothing

- When outside, children are required to wear loose fitting clothing that covers as much skin as possible.

Hats

- All children are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears.

Sunscreen

- SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is available for staff and children's use.
- Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every 2 hours if outdoors.
- Children are encouraged to apply their own sunscreen under supervision of staff.

When enrolling their child, families are advised of the school SunSmart Policy and asked to provide suitable outdoor clothing and an appropriate hat.

EVALUATION

The Administration will review the effectiveness of this policy each year and make any necessary changes.

They will:

- Review the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents and visitors and make recommendations for improvement.
- Assess shade provision and usage and make recommendations for increases in shade provision.
- Update and promote curriculum material relevant to SunSmart activities.