St Augustine’s Parish School

Sun Protection Guidelines
We are a welcoming community, united in faith and centred on learning who value and nurture the dignity of each individual.
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St Augustine’s Parish School

Sun Protection Guidelines

1 Purpose

St Augustine’s Parish School (the school) has a duty of care to students, staff and volunteers by providing guidelines in regard to exposure to the sun.

2 Scope of Policy

This Policy applies to St Augustine’s Parish School.

3 Guidelines

This policy is for implementation throughout the year with particular emphasis in Terms 1 and 4.

Primary Protection – less time exposed to Ultra Violet Radiation (UVR). Before May and after August, outdoor Physical Education lessons will make increased use of school shade areas, Siena Hall or the MacKillop activity area, when required.

- All students will wear school dress code approved hats. Hats should give good protection to the face, ears and back of the neck. Hats will be worn as detailed below by staff, students and volunteers. Hats are to be worn all year round for:
  - all outdoor activities including lessons, recess, lunch and play
  - excursions

  **NOTE:** For Out of School Hours Care (OSHC), refer to their guidelines

- In Terms 1 and 4, when necessary, Physical Education lessons are to be held prior to 11.00 am, or under shade/in a sun sheltered area

- Teachers are also encouraged to avoid outdoor activities after 11.00 am during Terms 1 and 4

- Preferentially Sports Day should be held between April and October with shade areas provided

- More indoor club and sport activities at lunch time will be supported, where teacher and volunteer involvement is available

- Students will be encouraged to use available shade areas for outdoor play and school activities

- Students who do not have their hats with them must remain in a shaded area

- Staff are expected to act as role models by -
  - wearing protective hats and clothing or using umbrellas for all outdoor activities
  - using SPF 30 broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for skin protection (class supply)
  - seeking shade wherever possible
  - wearing protective clothing – shoulders covered; no shoestring straps

- Students are provided with Ultra Violet (UV) sunblock (SPF 30+ broad spectrum and water resistant) in classrooms and on excursions. Teachers are **not** to apply sunscreen to students. Students must do this for themselves.

- Students with sensitive skin or who are allergic to generic sunblock, must supply their own sunblock and have a letter signed by their parent/s to this effect.

Clothing Protection

- Students will have their face, neck and ears protected whenever they are outside. Longer length school shorts are also approved (not cargo). Sunglasses are permitted and will be included in the uniform policy (comes into clothing).
Exposure Skin Protection

- Students will be encouraged to avoid direct exposure to the sun between 11 am and 3 pm from September to April and when UVR levels are 3 and above
- Sunscreen (30+) is recommended for skin not protected by clothing
- Application is recommended 15-20 minutes before going outside
- While every classroom will have 30+ sunblock available for student use, students are encouraged to bring their own supply
- Sunblock should be regularly re-applied (around every 2 hours) if outside for an extended period of time, or sooner if involved in water activities or sport
- Our School will:
  - regularly reinforce this policy through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities
  - encourage the Student Representative Council (SRC) to generate ideas to encourage participation - Slip Slop Slap Seek Slide (slip on a shirt, slop on sunblock, slap on a hat, seek shade and slide on wrap-around sunglasses) (from Cancer Council Australia)
  - complete and return the National SunSmart Schools Program “Application Questionnaire” when received – this continues our SunSmart School status
  - During the Induction program, parents will be informed of the Sun Protection Policy and the School Uniform Policy

4 Definitions

Staff means staff employed by St Augustine’s Parish School.

Parents means parents and/or guardians.

Volunteer means a person who has a current Police Check Unit clearance AND has completed the school’s Volunteer Induction requirements – both have a three year expiry date

5 Responsibility for implementation, monitoring and continual improvement

Responsibility for implementation, monitoring and review of the policy is vested at the level appropriate to the following roles:

Principal  School Board

6 Supporting procedures or policy support documents

This Policy is to be read in conjunction with, and is additional to, any relevant South Australian Commission for Catholic Schools (SACCS), school or CEO policy, procedure or support document. All Staff are required to comply with the provisions of any such documents, including the following:

- St Augustine’s Parish School’s Sun Protection Policy

6 Resources

- Cancer Council SA – SunSmart: SunSmart primary school policy guidelines
- Cancer Council SA – SunSmart: SunSmart early childhood policy guidelines
### Revision Record

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Document Title</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Document Type</td>
<td>Guidelines</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document Date</td>
<td>September 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Revision Number</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Document Status</td>
<td>Approved</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Policy Owner</td>
<td>St Augustine’s Parish School</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Contact</td>
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<tr>
<td>Approval Authority</td>
<td>St Augustine’s Parish School Board</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Review Date</td>
<td>2021 (or earlier if necessary)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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