

Sun Safe Policy 2019-2020



THE KING'S COLLEGE
Be exceptional.



Compliance and Review

The King's College is committed to the continuous improvement of its Child Protection Programme and adhering to the WA child protection laws, regulation and standards.

The King's College Sun Safe Policy

Reviewed by: The Principal

Updated:

October 2019

Endorsed by: The School Board

Next review:

October 2020

SUN SAFE POLICY

The King's College is guided in the formulation of its child Safe policies by the National Principles for Child Safe Organisations (National Framework for Protecting Australia's Children 2009-2020).

Purpose

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. It is estimated that more than 75% of all skin cancers could be prevented by practising sun protection in early childhood and adolescence.

'Schools and teachers owe to the students under their control and supervision a responsibility to take reasonable care for the safety of these students. Reasonable care, or duty of care, means that schools and teachers must respond to all elements of foreseeable risk and take reasonable steps to ensure that a student does not risk injury and that the health of the student is not put at risk'.

Sun protection for staff and students - www.ais.wa.edu.au

Objectives

The goals of the Sun Safety Policy are to:

- Increase student and community awareness of skin cancer.
- Assist students to develop strategies that encourage responsible decision making about skin protection.
- Work towards a safe school environment that provides shade for students and staff.
- Encourage students, parents, teachers and staff to wear protective clothing, caps or hats and sunscreen during high risk times such as lunch times, sports, excursions and camps.
- Ensure that parents are informed of the school's Sun Safety Policy.

Policy

Students and staff who are involved in a range of outdoor activities at The King's College may risk over exposure to the sun. Teachers should adhere to the following guidelines in order to protect students and themselves from over exposure to the sun.

Protection from over exposure to the sun during activities on the College oval and Basketball courts and during recess and lunch breaks:

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1. When the temperature reaches 36 degrees, or can reasonably be predicted to reach 36 degrees:

- The basketball courts and oval will be closed and all outdoor classes relocated indoors or to an appropriate location that provides adequate shade and cooler conditions.
- The class teacher must inform Student Services of the relocation of a class.
- The Deputy Principal will liaise with the Dean of Students to notify the closure of the basketball courts and oval during recess and lunch. A notice will be sent to all classes indicating that the basketball courts and oval are closed and undercover areas/shade areas should be used.
- Students may also be given access to the Class Rooms at recess and lunchtime.
- The Class Rooms will be supervised by the duty teacher assigned to duty supervision.
- Duty staff will move students who are standing, sitting or playing in un-shaded areas to the Class Room, undercover areas or another shaded area.

2. When the temperature is between 30 and 34 degrees:

- The teacher will use their discretion and modify the class activities, the length of the lesson and/or the location of the lesson.
- Where possible, outdoor lessons and sports carnivals should be scheduled outside of peak UV times.
- Student Services must be informed of the relocation of any class.
- Sunscreen must be provided and accessible for all students; however, students are encouraged to bring their own and have it with them at every outdoor activity.

3. The use of hats in the protection from over exposure to the sun:

- Students and staff must wear a hat while engaged in all outdoor activities.
- Students must wear the College hat/cap. These are available for purchase from the College Uniform shop.
- Students and staff must wear a hat to and from indoor venues.
- Students are not permitted to participate in outdoor activities without a hat. Students should wear hats at all times outside on breaks e.g. recess and lunch during term 1 and 4.

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- Students participating in extended outdoor excursions and other activities, such as sporting carnivals, must wear a hat.
- Duty teachers must wear a hat while on duty.
- Parents involved in outdoor activities should be asked, by the staff member in charge of the activity, to model sun safe behaviour and to wear a hat.
- Staff in charge of organising the Intra School swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals should inform parents in writing of their obligation to model sun safe behaviours.
- Students required to perform official duties on behalf of the College at outdoor venues are expected to wear their College hat.

4. Protection from over exposure to the sun during camps, excursions and tours.

- Clothing must cover the shoulders and midriff. Tops/shirts with collars are preferable.
- All students must wear a hat (not a visor) during all outdoor activities. Hats with a broad brim are recommended as they offer increased protection.
- Sunscreen will be available, however, students are encouraged to bring their own and have it with them at every outdoor activity.
- Sunscreen must be SPF30+ broad-spectrum and students must be encouraged to apply it regularly.
- Sun-baking is not allowed under any circumstances.

Students who do not comply with these sun safe requirements will not be permitted to participate in outdoor activities unless they are in a shaded area.

5. Protection from over exposure to the sun during water based activities:

In addition to camps, tours and excursions the following applies to College and Inter School swimming carnivals and other Inter School competitions and off campus class activities.

- During water activities, a rash vest or wet suit must be worn.
- If a rash vest or wet suit is not worn, a tee shirt (not loose fitting) must be worn over bathers.
- Out of the water, bathers must be covered at all times by clothing that covers the shoulders and midriff. Tops/shirts with collars are preferable.

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- When the specific rules of a competition prevent a student from wearing a rash vest, wet suit or tee shirt, the student must cover their bathers as soon as possible after the event.
- All students must wear a hat or cap (not a visor). Hats with a broad brim are recommended as they offer increased protection
- Sunscreen will be provided; however, students are encouraged to bring their own and have it with them at every outdoor activity.
- Sunscreen must be SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen and students must be encouraged to apply it regularly.
- Sun-baking is not allowed under any circumstances.

Students who do not comply with these sun safe requirements will not be permitted to participate in water based activities.

Drinking water

Students are permitted to carry water bottles, non glass, into all classes, but bottles should not be placed or kept near computers. Teachers are to encourage students to drink water regularly through the day, in particular before, during and after physical activity.

Shade

The Principal will regularly assess the College grounds in relation to the availability and use of shade.

Protection from over exposure to the sun of staff whose duties require that they are regularly outdoors:

Physical Education staff, Grounds staff and others whose duties require them to work outdoors for extended periods of time are required to take appropriate sun protection measures, as they are particularly at risk from UV radiation all year round. Staff should regularly use sunscreen and wear a hat, preferably a broad-brimmed hat. The modelling of sun-safe behaviour to students is essential, in addition to taking adequate measures to protect themselves from over exposure to the sun.

Sunglasses should be worn by all staff and students who are exposed to the sun for long periods of time, such as all-day teaching PE, or on Outdoor education camps, or at the beach.

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Sunscreen Use

Students and staff are actively encouraged to apply SPF 30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen regularly e.g. prior to school, before lunch, PE lessons, sport, excursions, etc.

Occupational Health and Safety

Consideration is given to sun protection for all teachers/staff involved in outdoor activities, including yard duty.

Physical education and sport education teachers are required to take appropriate sun protection measures as they are particularly at risk from UV radiation.

Promotion of sun safe behaviour:

- The Principal will promote sun protection throughout the year via newsletters, student notices and staff and parent meetings.
- Staff will promote sun safe behaviour in assemblies regularly.
- Staff are required to be conversant with the contents of the policy.
- Staff are requested to act as role models by practising Sun Smart behaviours.
- Sun Safe practices are imbedded within the Health Education Program. Students may study the effects of skin cancer within the context of lifestyle diseases. These are further developed in Senior Secondary courses.

Related Policies and Information:

*Staff Code of Conduct Student Code of Conduct Parent Code of Conduct Family Handbook Student Diary
Child protection Policy Child safety framework. Yard Duty Policy
Occupational Health and Safety Policy Uniform Policy*