



# SunSmart Policy

(V2.0 1908)

BRISBANE GRAMMAR SCHOOL

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### 1. Purpose and Application

Too much exposure to the sun's ultraviolet (**UV**) radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage, and skin cancer. Excessive UV exposure during childhood and adolescence can lead to an increased risk of skin cancer in later life. Australia has one of the highest rates of UV exposure and skin cancer in the world, with two in three Australians developing some form of skin cancer before the age of 70. As at 2016, Queensland in particular had the highest melanoma incidence rate of anywhere in the world.

The purpose of this policy is to provide guidelines to:

- Ensure students, staff, parents and visitors are protected from over-exposure to UV radiation;
- Ensure students are educated and encouraged to develop independent sun protection skills, including Sun Safe Practices;
- Ensure the School provides an environment that supports Sun Safe Practices and other sun-safe behaviour; and
- Support the School's strategies to meet its duty of care and occupational health and safety obligations to minimise harmful UV exposure for students, staff, parents and visitors.

This policy applies to all students, staff, parents and visitors (including contractors, volunteers and work experience students) of Brisbane Grammar School (**School**).

This policy applies to all outdoor activities (of whatever nature) involving students, staff, parents and visitors whenever they occur, where there is a relevant connection with the School, including within and outside the School.

This policy complements and builds on the School's other policies as part of its commitment to the wellbeing of students, staff and members of the broader School community.

### 2. Definitions

In this policy:

**Peak UV Times** means the hours between 10 am and 2 pm (Australian Eastern Standard Time).

**Sun Safe Practices** means the practices set out in **clause 4.1** of this policy.

**Sunscreen** means sunscreen that is least SPF30+, broad spectrum and water-resistant.

### 3. Sun Protection Measures Taken by the School

The School will take the following steps to achieve the purposes of this policy:

- **Shade** – The School will provide a variety of shade in all outdoor areas where students congregate. Such shade includes trees, built and portable shades in areas for recess, lunch, outdoor teaching and sport. Where practical, the School will also ensure that adequate shade is provided at any School-related events held at external locations (such as, for example, swimming carnivals).



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- **Scheduling outdoor activities** – The School will consider shade and indoor options for all activities and excursions. Where practical, the School will schedule outdoor activities outside Peak UV Times.
- **Class timetables** – The School will review class timetables to minimise outdoor activity during Peak UV times.
- **Sunscreen** – The School will make Sunscreen available to students and staff at various locations throughout the School campus.
- **Curriculum** – The School will develop a sun safety education programme for students, to be delivered through the student wellbeing curriculum.
- **School uniform** – The School will ensure that the official School uniform (including any School-sanctioned sport or other co-curricular clothing) is designed to minimise exposure to UV radiation.
- **Inform the School community** – The School will inform members of the School community about this policy and sun safety generally through various channels (such as the School's newsletter and website).
- **Monitoring** – The School will supervise students while outdoors to monitor observance of, and if necessary enforce, Sun Safe Practices.
- **Role modelling of staff** – The School will support staff to act as positive role models for sun safety.
- **Working with parents** – The School will seek the ongoing support of parents in ensuring that their children observe Sun Safe Practices.

### 4. Our Expectations

#### 4.1. Students

Students are expected to observe the following practices whenever they are outdoors (whether for play, sport, teaching or co-curricular activities) (**Sun Safe Practices**):

- **Wear a hat** – Students must wear a hat approved by the School that protects their face, neck and ears from sun exposure (**School Hat**).
- **Wear proper clothing** – Students must wear the official School uniform (or, where appropriate, any School-sanctioned sport or co-curricular clothing). Students are encouraged to wear rash vests, t-shirts, and other similar protective clothing while swimming.
- **Apply sunscreen** – Students are reminded and strongly encouraged to apply Sunscreen before going outdoors, particularly during Peak UV Times, and must apply Sunscreen every two hours when outdoors for extended periods
- **Wear sunglasses** – Where practical, Students are encouraged to wear close fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that cover as much of the eyes as possible and comply with Australian Standard AS1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4).
- **Seek shade** – Students must seek out shade whenever possible.

The School may take any action which is reasonably necessary to protect students who do not observe Sun Safe Practices (such as by excluding such students from any outdoor activities). In particular, students who do not wear a School Hat when outdoors will be directed to stay indoors or under shade.

#### 4.2. Parents

Parents are expected to:

- **Provide support** – Support the School in the implementation of this policy by ensuring that their child observes Sun Safe Practices; and



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- **Take responsibility** – When on the School campus or participating in a School activity, take responsibility for their own health and safety by adopting appropriate sun protection practices.

### 4.3. Staff

Staff are expected to:

- **Role model** – Act as a positive role model for students by:
  - Wearing sun-safe hats (such as legionnaire, broad-brimmed or bucket hats), clothing and sunglasses when outdoors;
  - Applying Sunscreen before going outdoors and reapplying Sunscreen every 2 hours when outdoors for extended periods;
  - Seeking shade whenever possible;
  - Refraining from wearing baseball caps and visors;
  - Reminding students of Sun Safe Practices wherever possible (such as prior to recess and while participating in any outdoor activities).
- **Enforce Sun Practices** – Enforce Sun Practices, including by:
  - Ensuring that students who do not have a School Hat are directed to stay indoors or under shade (or are not otherwise exposed to direct sunlight);
  - Undertake any required professional development training in relation to this policy or sun safety generally; and
  - Take appropriate disciplinary measures in relation to students who repeatedly fail to observe Sun Safe Practices, in accordance with School policy.

Staff are also encouraged to take an active role in monitoring UV conditions when planning or participating in outdoor School activities. Staff can check daily local sun protection times (and UV ratings) via the [SunSmart widget](#) on the service's website, the free [SunSmart app](#), or at [sunsmart.com.au](http://sunsmart.com.au) or [myuv.com.au](http://myuv.com.au).

### 4.4. Visitors

Visitors are expected to take responsibility for their own health and safety by adopting appropriate sun protection practices.

## 5. Related Documents

- Student Behaviour Management Policy (For Teachers)
- Student Behaviour Management Policy (For Students and Parents)
- Code of Conduct (Staff)
- Code of Expectation and Behaviour (Students)

## 6. Contact Information

If you have any questions regarding this document, please contact: Deputy Headmaster – Students via [dhm.students@brisbanegrammar.com](mailto:dhm.students@brisbanegrammar.com) or 07 3834 5200.



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### 7. Policy Management

The School will review this policy every three years to ensure it remains effective and relevant and may also change this policy at any time to take account of change and the effect of changes, in legislation, best practice and other School policies and documents.

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