

***Sun exposure can lead to skin cancer and other forms of skin and eye damage later in life. Remember to Slip! Slop! Slap! Seek! Slide!***

With the warmer weather approaching, protecting yourself from the sun is really important. With this in mind, we are pleased to announce that Somerly Primary School has become the latest SunSmart School.

Overexposure to the sun during childhood and adolescent is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer later in life. As students are at school during times of peak ultraviolet (UV) radiation, schools can play a major role in creating a supportive environment that minimises exposure and encourages sun protective behaviours.

Our Sun Protection policy has been developed to ensure that all students, staff, parents and visitors attending Somerly Primary School are protected from skin damage caused by harmful ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun. This policy is to be implemented when the forecast average monthly UV Index in our area is 3 or above (available from [www.bom.gov.au](http://www.bom.gov.au)). The sun protection practices will be applied to all school activities, including sports carnivals, excursions and camps.

What do I need to do?

- We encourage parents and guests to wear broad-brimmed, bucket style hats when participating in and attending outdoor school activities. We also ask visitors to use a combination of sun protection measures. Children learn lifelong sun protection behaviours from their parent, so lead by example!
- Require students and staff to wear a wide brimmed, bucket style hat that protects the face, neck, ears and crown of the head whenever they are outside and on all camps, sports days and excursions.
- Sunscreen will be accessible to staff and students. We encourage you to provide sunscreen for your child where possible.

Students will also participate in sun protection lessons as part of the curriculum. Sun protection lessons help students make decisions about their individual health and safety and understand the science and impact of ultra violet radiation.

***Remember you can still get sunburnt on a cool or cloudy day, so Slip! Slop! Slap! Seek! Slide!***