



Maroon Outdoor Education Centre Sun Safety Policy

Rationale

Year-round sun protection is important for all children and young people in Queensland as research demonstrates that high ultraviolet radiation (UVR) exposure in childhood and adolescence significantly increases the risk of developing skin cancer.

Our centre aims to educate our students about being sun safe in order to develop important, life-long, healthy habits, and acknowledges the important role adults play during and outside centre hours to reinforce sun safety with children and young people.

In implementing this policy, our centre and community recognise that:

- the policy applies to all centre and centre-related activities and events;
- the strategies are to be implemented during the whole centre day and year-round; and
- a combination of sun safe strategies is more effective than a single approach.

Date of commencement: March 2026

Review date: March 2027

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
Clothing requirements	Students are required to wear protective clothing, including appropriate hats, when outdoors to reduce students' exposure to the sun, including the following strategies: Hats • Students are required to wear appropriate hats when outdoors. The only exceptions are when a hat reduces visibility or interferes with activity skills and therefore poses a risk to students' safety; or when wearing a hat is not possible because other headwear is required to be worn for religious or safety reasons. Under these circumstances, students may remove their hats for the duration of the activity, ensuring they have applied sunscreen to uncovered skin (ideally 20 minutes) prior to participating. • Staff remind students to wear hats when outdoors. • Spare clean hats are available for students to borrow if they forget their hat. Swim shirts • Students are required to wear appropriate protective clothing during all water-based activities.
Shade provision and use	Our centre maximises the use of available shade for outdoor activities.
Education	Our centre provides educational programs on sun safety and preventative measures through the following strategies: Curriculum, teaching and learning • Staff include the risk of exposure to UVR in their curriculum activity risk assessments for outdoor activities, which includes ensuring

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
	that adequate shade is available for outdoor activities where possible. Incidental teaching and promoting sun safe behaviours - Incidental teaching of personal sun safety strategies occurs in all year levels on a regular basis, for example, through reminders to students to wear hats and apply sunscreen. Staff professional development - Staff are informed about the centre's sun safety policy and its requirements on induction.
Sunscreen provision	Our centre recognises the importance of sunscreen use as a sun safe measure and implements the following strategies: - The centre supplies SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for student use. - Parents/carers are encouraged to provide sunscreen for their child if they don't wish their child to use the centre's sunscreen.
Modelling sun safe behaviours	Our centre promotes the importance of parents/carers, teachers, ancillary staff, volunteers and other adult supervisors as role models for students using the following strategies: - Staff are encouraged to consider the use of shade, sun safe hats and clothing, sunglasses and sunscreen. - Parents/carers are encouraged to have their children apply sunscreen before they come to centre and provide personal sunscreen for their children to use at centre.
Cost considerations	The department provides funding for sun safety using the following strategies: Centre funding is allocated annually to enable the purchase of sunscreen.
Additional strategies	Other strategies our centre uses to be sun safe include: 1) Written correspondence to visiting schools Emphasise the need for participants to bring protective clothing, including appropriate hats, SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant and water bottles. 2) School Visits Remind visiting staff and students of the outdoor nature of programs and the resulting need to be appropriately protected during extended periods outdoors. 3) Centre staff Support staff sun safety through provision of PPE allocations and sunscreen for staff. Actively support appropriate sun protective practices by consciously being suitable role models at all times. 4) Pre-activity briefs All students are reminded of and monitored for hats, sunscreen and appropriate clothing. 5) Programming Consider the amount of time spent in the sun particularly during the higher risk periods when programming activities.

Approved by:

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read 'P McKenna', is written over a light grey rectangular background.

Peter McKenna

Principal

Date of approval: 23/06/2026