



SUNSMART POLICY AND PROCEDURES

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Purpose

The Cancer Council of Western Australia recommends that schools fulfil their duty of care obligations. Each school should have a SunSmart policy for students and staff. Al-Ameen College takes duty of care for all students and staff very seriously. Accordingly, the College responds to all elements of foreseeable risk and takes reasonable steps to ensure that students and staff do not risk injury and that the health and safety of students and staff is not put at risk. The College's SunSmart policy has been developed to minimise the dangers of excessive UV radiation exposure for students and staff, and to ensure a safe environment for teaching and learning. The purpose of the policy is also to incorporate SunSmart education into the appropriate key learning areas of the school curriculum, including programs for skin cancer prevention and healthy UV exposure levels. In addition, the policy has been developed to encourage SunSmart behaviours and to regularly promote SunSmart practices to the whole College community through student and teacher activities, at staff meetings, school assemblies and via the College's newsletters.

Scope

This policy applies to all students and staff at Al-Ameen College and is to be implemented by all staff throughout the year, particularly from the beginning of September through to the end of May. The SunSmart practices outlined below will be applied to all school outdoor activities, including recess, lunch, physical education periods, outdoor classes, sports carnivals, excursions and camps.

Policy

Due to Australia's high skin cancer rate, SunSmart practices such as 'Slip, Slop, Slap' (Slip on a shirt, slop on sunscreen and slap on a hat) and 'No Hat, No Play', were introduced. This policy has been developed to ensure such SunSmart practices occur and to:

- Ensure the entire school community uses a combination of SunSmart measures. In particular, there is to be no outdoor play for students and no outdoor duty for staff without a hat.
- Provide a safe school environment and ensure there are adequate shaded areas for students, staff and the school community.
- Educate and assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection.
- Ensure that new staff are informed of the school's SunSmart policy and all staff are regularly briefed and trained on health and safety issues like sun exposure.
- Encourage safe UV exposure at all times throughout the year and that particular care is taken between 10:00am and 3:00pm when UV levels reach their peak during the day.
- Ensure that this policy is considered when planning all outdoor events e.g. assemblies, outdoor activities, camps, excursions and sporting events.

- Ensure that the procedures for implementing the SunSmart policy are adhered to by all staff. Inform all staff that negligence will constitute a breach of the College's duty of care.
- Communicate with parents/carers and reach agreement about their respective responsibilities.

Procedures

Implement the Following SunSmart Practices:

a. Slip on Covering Uniform

Wear uniform that covers as much skin as possible. Buy and wear the long sleeve uniform rather than the short sleeve alternative.

b. Slop on SPF 50 or SPF50+, Broad-Spectrum, Water-Resistant Sunscreen

Apply a generous amount of sunscreen to clean, dry skin before you come to school. For outdoor excursions, all students and staff are to apply sunscreen before departing. For camps and other extended outdoor activities, students and staff are to apply sunscreen.

c. Slap on a Hat

Choose a broad-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket style hat which shades your face, nose, neck and ears, which are common sites for skin cancers. Caps and visors do not provide adequate protection.

d. Seek Shade

Use trees, built shade structures, or bring your own (such as a sunshade tent)! Shade reduces UV radiation, but it can still cause damage via reflection. Ensure to use shade in combination with other sun protection measures.

e. Slide on Sunglasses

Sunglasses and a broad-brimmed hat worn together can reduce UV radiation exposure to the eyes by up to 98%. Sunglasses should be worn outside during daylight hours. Choose close-fitting wraparound sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard AS/NSZ 1067.

References

<http://www.des.wa.gov.au/schooleducation/nongovernmentschools/Pages/default.aspx>

<http://www.ais.wa.edu.au/>

AISWA Policy Guidelines

Review

Year of Review	Reviewed By	Amendments/Review	Next Review
2012	YI	Originally Released	
2014	PR	Revised	
2020	NM	Revised and Amended	
2021	PR/ME	Revised and Amended	
2025	PR/FP	Revised-Included Procedures	