



EMMAUS
CHRISTIAN SCHOOL CANBERRA

General Policy 1-4

Sun Safe

Reviewed

June 2016

Vision/Purpose

Emmaus exists to partner with parents, in providing a Christ-centred, Biblically-grounded and academically-rigorous education, which enables students to grow in wisdom and character, to the glory of God.

Values

1. Caring for Others

At Emmaus, we value, care for and respect each other because we are all made in the image of God. We partner with parents to care for and develop the whole person- body, soul and spirit. We foster a sense of belonging, celebrate one another's achievements and choose to be grateful for our school and each other. We are a community that learns in a fun, creative, encouraging and generous environment.

2. Striving for Mastery

At Emmaus, we encourage students to strive for excellence in all aspects of life: in study, work, and in relationships with God and with people. We believe God equips every person with gifts and abilities. We seek to instill in our students a strong desire to apply their utmost to what they do, an attribute that will long outlive their school years. Students are encouraged to master and apply academic and life skills in order to make the most of their opportunities in later life. Our goal is to equip students with the necessary skills and understanding to make wise and Godly choices, and to live resilient, fulfilled, and productive lives.

3. Equipping for Service

At Emmaus, our motivation for service is the love that Christ has shown us: his life of servant leadership is the example we seek to follow. Staff at Emmaus model integrity, accountability and the value of excellence in our work. We strive to equip students with both the desire and the skills to make a difference in the lives of others. We aim to grow students who are rich in Godly wisdom and noble character, and find their security in the love of Christ.

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SUN SAFE POLICY

PURPOSE

- The Sun Smart Policy has been developed to assist students, staff and visitors attending Emmaus Christian School to be responsible for their own sun protection behaviour, and to protect themselves from over-exposure of the sun's potentially harmful ultraviolet radiation rays (UVR), whilst still assisting students in maintaining appropriate vitamin D levels.
- This policy is to be considered before participating in outdoor activities and events on and off site. A combination of sun protection measures will be required when UV levels reach 3 and above. In Canberra sun protection is required for part or most of each day between August and May.

This Policy:

- Aims to protect members of the School community from skin damage caused by the sun
- Applies to all students, staff and visiting coaches, teachers, contractors etc.
- Encourages staff to check the UV Alert on a daily basis.
- Will be reviewed regularly

RATIONALE

- This policy aims to protect students and workers, as far as reasonably practicable, from the dangers associated with over-exposure to the sun's UV.
- UV levels reach 3 and above in Canberra for part or most of each day between August and
- May, peaking during the daylight saving/summer period between 11am and 3pm, which warrants sensible sun protection during this part of the year.

DEFINITIONS

- Duty of Care: legal duty of care requires that teachers and workers should take all reasonable measures to ensure the safety of a school student under their care. This duty of care will arise whenever a student/teacher-worker relationship exists.
- Parents/Carers: people with parental responsibility and guardians.
- Workers: teachers and staff employed by the Directorate.
- Sensible: covering as much skin as possible from UV levels.
- Sunburn: a radiation burn to the skin.
- UV or UVR: Ultraviolet Radiation

The school will expect students to wear sun-safe hats from 1st of August till 31st of May during school hours.

End of May is Hats Off

Start of August is Hats On

A combination of the 5 sun protection measures below will also be considered when planning outdoor activities and events.

1. Uniform

- The School will consider suitable protective clothing when choosing a uniform, including a collar and sleeves.
- When not wearing uniform at school, clothing exposing large amounts of shoulder and upper torso e.g. singlets, tank tops and strappy dresses are not considered suitable.
- When the weather is extreme, options to spend time inside will be provided.
- When at a swim carnival, all students will be required to wear at least a t-shirt or a rash vest (rashie), except during their event. If they are waiting for their event, wherever possible, they will be out of the sun.
- Students are allowed to wear sunglasses during recess and lunch at school.
- When an excursion is based indoors, teachers may ask students to leave sunglasses at school.

2. Sunscreen

- The use of SPF 30+, broad-spectrum sunscreen is encouraged.
- Parents are encouraged to send students to school wearing sunscreen and to send their child to school with sunscreen to apply throughout the day.
- SPF 30 or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is to be readily available to staff and students throughout the school campus and at all outdoor events (including excursions, camps and carnivals).

3. Hats

- Between August and May all students are required to wear SunSmart hats (e.g.: broad-brimmed, bucket with deep crown or legionnaire hats) that cover the face, ears and neck when outside.
- Between August and May staff are encouraged to lead by example, also wearing SunSmart hats.
- Students with no hat will be required to play in a well shaded area.
- Students without a sun-safe hat will only be permitted in areas protected from the sun and will be unable to participate in outdoor sports activities and excursions where exposure to the sun is experienced.
- All students must wear suitably protective hats when attending sport and sports carnivals.
- Baseball or peak caps are not a suitable alternative and will not be worn.

4. Shade Provision

- The school community is committed to providing shade in areas where students gather such as for eating, outdoor teaching and popular play areas. The use of these areas is encouraged.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all outdoor activities and any new or modified buildings or grounds.
- Teachers are encouraged to think about the availability of shade when planning an excursion or event.

- Students who do not wear an appropriate hat are directed to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.
- Students who do not wear appropriate clothing, for example during a free dress day, are required to put on more clothing/to call home to arrange for a change of clothing.
- During the higher UV months, students will be reminded, directed and encouraged to use the school's designated shade areas when eating.

5. Rescheduling Outdoor Activities

- Teachers will keep students indoors or under shade, while eating, at recess and lunch times, during the summer months
- Assemblies will be held, wherever possible, indoors, under shade or at lower UV times.
- Care is always taken during the middle of the day when outdoors.

6. Education

- Staff, parents and adults are encouraged to provide positive role models by practicing sun protection behaviour.
- The Sun Smart policy will be reinforced in a positive way through parent newsletters, notice boards and meetings and assemblies.

Related Documents

- Sun (UV) Protection for students (2015) - SUVPS201512
- Cancer Council ACT National SunSmart Schools Program

For Teachers

- Cancer Council's Generation SunSmart Teacher Professional Learning Modules : TQI
- SunSmart App to assist them with accurate daily sun protection times in Canberra.
- SunSmart Widget on our school's website homepage.