

Sun Safety Policy

Rationale

The Queensland Government, including The Department of Education, is committed to protecting students from the harmful effects of the sun in accordance with the Department's guidelines. **Ripley Valley State Secondary College's** continued commitment to **Sun Safe** practices has developed a **Sun Safety Policy** which encompasses strategies outlined in the Department's EPPR (Education Policy & Procedures Register) and will continue to review the Policy through the Annual Improvement Plan.

Aim

To ensure all school community members are:

- Aware of accepted sun smart practices and their benefits that promotes personal responsibility for skin cancer protection and early detection
- Exposed to, observe and adopt sun smart practices
- Provided with incentives and opportunity to adopt sun smart practices

Policy

Curriculum activities and Sport

Ensure Students and staff:

- Have access to **SPF 30+** sunscreen
- Wear the Ripley Valley SSC hat (must be worn by students) when exposed to the sun and when appropriate
- Students are encouraged to wear sunglasses and other suitable protective clothing as required

Extra curricula activities

Ensure students and staff:

- Have access to **SPF30+** sunscreen
- Wear the Ripley Valley SSC hat when exposed to the sun and when appropriate
- Must wear suitable protective clothing ('rashie' or T-shirt when in the pool) and are encouraged to wear sunglasses

Non-structured activity (timetabled meal breaks and PGD)

Ensure students and staff:

- Have access to **SPF30+** sunscreen
- Wear the Ripley Valley SSC hat when exposed to the sun and when appropriate
- Are encouraged to wear sunglasses and other suitable protective clothing
- Encouraged to limit the time exposure in the sun

Action Plan

- Provide **SPF 30+** sunscreen to every staffroom, the tuckshop and/or selected locations for staff to access and dispense to students when required or requested.
- Promote the compulsory requirement to wear the school hat as part of the uniform.
- Seek responsibility from the P & C to provide low cost (good quality) school hat for sale to students through the uniform shop.
- Increase shade areas around the school including the installation of additional shade sails and play area / bus shelter and maximize their use.
- Plant shade trees
- Provide effective educational programs on sun safety and preventative measures through the Physical Education curriculum and through structured class visits by the school nurse (when appointed).
- Raise awareness through school publications, student notices, year parades and whole school assemblies.
- Promote the importance of and encourage parents, teachers, support staff and volunteers to be role models for students
- When reviewing school uniform design consider sun protection
- Continue to develop appropriate strategies to manage reported student non-compliance when participating in curriculum and extra curricula activities. Such strategies will be inclusive of parental involvement to support the matter.
- Staff and community members to model desired practices through the wearing of a hat and sunglasses when outdoors.