



# Highgate School Inclement Weather and SunSmart Policy

At Highgate School we work together to ensure the safety and wellbeing of the community. We know that a balance of ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposure is important for health.

## SunSmart Policy

Highgate School uses a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities during terms 1, 3 and 4, and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above at other times.

### Students will:

- ✓ Wear a hat that protects their face neck and ears (e.g. legionnaire, broad-brimmed or bucket hats\*) when outside in terms 1, 3 and 4 and whenever the UV reading is 3 or above. The morning forecast from the BOM website is used to determine this.
- ✓ Play in the shade (under the: COLA, verandah, or shady trees) if they are not wearing a hat when it is required (see above).
- ✓ Wear sun protective clothing to school including polo tops. Longer style shorts, skirts or dresses are recommended.
- ✓ Bring their own sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher) and apply it to themselves 20minutes before going outside and reapply every 2 hours when returning or remaining outside during daily sun protection times when the UV is 3 and above or more often if washed or wiped off.
- ✓ Wear a rash top or t-shirt for outdoor water activities (e.g. aquatics excursions)

### Parents will:

- ✓ Ensure their child is provided with an appropriate hat, sun safe clothing and sunscreen each day
- ✓ Wear a hat that protects their face neck and ears (e.g. legionnaire, broad-brimmed or bucket hats, with NO cord) and are encouraged to use sunscreen, wear sun protective clothing, sunglasses and seek shade when outside in terms 1, 3 and 4 and whenever the UV reading is 3 or above when volunteering outside or attending school events outside (e.g. sports day)
- ✓ Encourage their child to apply sunscreen before coming to school.

### Teachers and other staff will:

- ✓ Check the UV rating (in Term 2) and peak UV times daily with students using BOM website and communicate this to students
- ✓ Wear a hat that protects their face neck and ears (e.g. legionnaire, broad-brimmed or bucket hats) when outside in terms 1, 3 and 4 and whenever the UV reading is 3 or above. The morning forecast from the BOM website is used to determine this.
- ✓ Remind students without a hat or appropriate clothing to play in the shade (under the: COLA, verandah, or shady trees) if they are not wearing a hat or sun protective clothing when it is required (see above).
- ✓ Wear sun protective clothing to school.
- ✓ Remind students to apply sunscreen throughout the day and give time for this when taking students outside (see above)
- ✓ Organise outside activities so that they are held either under the shade or outside of the peak UV radiation times, whenever possible.
- ✓ Educate students in the importance of proper sun protection
- ✓ Seek shade whenever possible

### Highgate School will:

- ✓ Ensure adequate shade structures and shady trees are provided for students



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- ✓ Ensure the uniform includes sun safe clothing and hats
- ✓ Provide spare SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen for each class and special event days.
- ✓ Promote SunSmart behaviour to the community through school assemblies, newsletters, volunteer induction and the staff handbook.
- ✓ Provide staff with resources to support teaching students about SunSmart practices.

\* Please note: baseball caps are not acceptable. Hats can not have a cord under the chin.

## Wet Weather

### Before School

- ✓ Children shall be allowed to enter classroom if heavy rain is falling
- ✓ Teachers present will share responsibility for supervision
- ✓ Leadership or staff without a class will be rostered on duty

### Recess and Lunch Break

- ✓ Either someone from the leadership team or a teacher on duty makes the decision for Wet Weather Procedures. Two quick blasts of siren.
- ✓ Leadership/admin team are responsible for sirens - 2 BELLS - 2 to go in 2 to go out.
- ✓ All children remain in classrooms except when using toilet or Canteen. The classroom area is under the classroom teacher supervision.
- ✓ The gym is closed and library passes are required if students go to the library.
- ✓ Students must be indoors, under supervision. Class Teachers return to their classes. Supervision can be shared across teams to provide short release breaks.
- ✓ If the rain stops within 10 minutes of the end of lunch, students will remain indoors.

## Hot Weather Policy

On days where the forecast temperature is 36C and confirmed (as per Bureau of Meteorology Current Temperature) to be 36C and over before the break:

- ✓ 2 bells will ring at the beginning of the break
- ✓ Students will stay inside for recess/lunch.
- ✓ Leadership and specialist teachers will release staff where possible.

### Resource Centre arrangements

- ✓ *Students can access library for games, quiet reading etc. with library passes (teacher librarian on duty)*

## SATURDAY MORNING SPORTS

If the BOM forecast for Saturday is 36C and above **at 12pm on the Friday prior**, the games will be cancelled.