Use this evaluation tool by answering the following questions to determine your school’s current sun protection practices.

Add up the total number of points from all the questions below and refer to the key for suggestion on how make you school more SunWise.

**Assess the use of school grounds in relation to availability and use of shade:**

**How many trees or shade structures are on your school grounds?**

(2) Many (1) Few (0) None

**Are shaded areas available to students during lunch, recess, physical education and sports?**

(2) Yes (1) Somewhat (0) No

**Approximately what proportion of outdoor space is sheltered by structures and/or trees?**

(2) 66-100% (1) 33-66% (0) 10-33%

**Can the amount of shade by realistically increased in areas of high student use?**

(2) Yes (1) Somewhat (0) No

**Are there currently any plans for adding new trees/structures or new construction or renovations that would provide more shade?**

(2) Yes (1) Possibly, if can secure funding (0) Not at this time

**Assess current school policies for aspects that encourage or discourage sun safe practices:**

**Are the students allowed to apply sunscreen in school?**

(2) Yes (1) Only on Field trips/field days (0) No

**Are teacher and nurses allowed to apply/help apply sunscreen to students?**

(2) Yes (1) Teachers monitor while students apply themselves

(0) No, they are not allowed

**Are students allowed to wear hats on school grounds?**

(2) Yes, but not in the building (1) Only allowed on field days/field trips (0) No

**At what time of day are outdoor activities scheduled?**

(2) All activities are before 10 am and after 4 pm (1) Try to avoid 10 am and 4 pm

(0) Most activities are between 10am and 4 pm

**Are sun safety facts and reminders often communicated with parents using newsletters, nurses’ notes education pamphlets etc.?**

(2) Yes, written forms of communication often include sun safety information

(1) A summer reminder is usually distributed (0) No

**Are parents or guardians included in sun safety decisions made by the school?**

(2) Yes (1) Somewhat (0) No

**Look at current students and staff behaviors though a SunWise Lens:**

**How many students come to school wearing sunscreen?**

(2) Most (1) Some (0) None

**What are the sun safety behaviors of school staff and administration? Do they act as role models in the reinforcement of sun safe policies or practices?**

(2) Most use sunscreen, wear protective clothing, and seek shade

(1) Some try to practice a few sun safety behaviors (0) None

**Do student and staff make use of available shade during outdoor activities?**

(2) Yes, shade is mostly utilized (1) Somewhat (0) No

**Key for Suggestions to make your school more SunWise**

**0-9 Points**

Your school still has some work to do to make it SunWise. The SunWise program <https://www.neefusa.org/sunwise> will greatly help in the efforts to integrate sun safety into your school’s daily practices. The first step is realizing that this is an important issue that affects students’ and staffs’ health. The next step is to raise awareness of your school community. By using the SunWise toolkit to integrate a sun safety curriculum into the classroom lessons and to establish sun-safe practices, your school will become SunWise. Please review the information at the beginning of the toolkit to help to utilize the toolkit.

**10-19 Points**

Your school has already taken some important steps toward becoming SunWise. However, by using the SunWise toolkit, you can improve your school’s efforts even further. It may be helpful to take a closer look at your school grounds to assess where it may be possible to increase the amount of shade. Consider adding other practices to increase sun safety. Other ideas are to increase the amount of communication already sent to parents regarding the importance of sun safety through outlets such as newsletters, and to develop protocols for sun screen and protective clothing, hats and sunglasses use.

**20-28 Points**

Your school is doing a really good job at being a SunWise school. By using the SunWise toolkit you can help improve the efforts even further. Besides supplying a creative curriculum, you can take further opportunities in your school to expand current practices. It might be beneficial to have school related organizations work on fund raisers to increase the amount of available shade on the school grounds or try to adjust outdoor activity time when needed.