Learning their ABCs and UVIs

SCHOOLS are installing UV meters so children and teachers know when to slip, slop and slap to prevent sunburn in the playground. The Cancer Council WA is installing 10 devices as part of an Australia-first trial.

Live UV index readings will be beamed to a display at each school, while readings will also be available online at the Cancer Council’s myUV website. The first meter was installed at St Hilda’s Anglican School for Girls in Mosman Park, a second was fitted this week at Peter Moyes Anglican Community School at Mindarie and a third will go to Singleton Primary School. Another seven are for sale to schools or businesses for $4375 each.

Cancer Council WA’s sun smart manager Mark Strickland said the scheme was designed to familiarise the next generation with the UV index. He said sunburn was linked to the UV index and not temperature.