

HEALTH & SAFETY - SUN PROTECTION POLICY

Rationale

Unprotected exposure to the sun significantly increases the risk of developing skin cancer. Medical experts say that as many as one in two people living in Australia will get skin cancer during their lifetime. Our school is committed to reducing exposure of staff and students to the sun's harmful ultraviolet rays.

Focus of this Policy:

- Student Welfare
- Staff Welfare
- Parents / Visitors / Volunteers
- Health & Safety

Goals:

- To minimise the risk of skin cancer to all students and staff.
- To develop awareness within the community regarding the need to wear hats during peak sun exposure times.
- To increase the awareness, within the school community, of the dangers associated with exposure to the sun's rays.
- The school hat is part of the school uniform.
- All students will wear a hat on all school activities.

Implementation Strategies:

All students are required to wear a protective hat in the sun whenever they are outside.

- Students who do not wear a hat must remain out of the sun for play periods.
- Shade and shelter areas are provided to meet students' play needs.
- Staff will be encouraged to act as a role model by practicing Sun Smart behaviour: wearing protective hats and appropriate clothing for all outdoor activities and seeking shade whenever possible.
- Parents should assess their own child's skin type and take greater precautions e.g. long sleeved garments if highly susceptible to direct sunlight, sun screen.

Evaluation:

- In consultation with teachers, parents and students the sun protection policy will be reviewed for effectiveness.
- Support of sun protection strategies observed in leisure use.