



Sun Safe School Policy

Rationale

New Zealand has one of the highest incidences of melanoma in the world. The major cause, over exposure to the sun during childhood and adolescence can be easily avoided. The sun safe policy is implemented during Terms 1 and 4, when ultraviolet radiation levels are most intense.

Purpose

1. To increase pupils and community awareness of melanomas and the practical means of protections. To develop strategies which encourage responsible decision-making about skin protection.
2. To work toward a school environment which provides shade for pupils and staff.
3. To encourage pupils and staff to wear protective clothing and hats for outdoor activities and at high risk times. E.g. during sport, lunchtime school camps and trips.

Guidelines

Action Behaviour

1. Pupils must wear the school broad-brimmed sun hats for outside activities during high risk seasons.
2. The importance of applying a broad spectrum sunscreen before going out into the sun will be publicised.
3. Children without hats to stay in a shaded area.
4. Teachers will consider timetabling Physical Education lessons before 11.00am during Terms One and Four.
5. Maintain planting programme that will provide shade.
6. Encourage staff to role model sun smart behaviour.
7. Regularly publicise and reinforce the Sun Smart Policy.
8. Incorporate Sun Smart education and activities at all levels when delivering the curriculum.