

STUDENT SUN PROTECTION POLICY

1.0 Introduction

According to the Australian Cancer Council, every year in Australia skin cancers account for around 80% of all newly diagnosed cancers. Furthermore, between 95 and 99% of skin cancers are caused by exposure to the sun. Australia's incidence of skin cancer is one of the highest in the world, two to three times the rates in Canada, the US and the UK. We therefore have a responsibility along with the individual and their families to protect young people from damage to their skin.

2.0 Policy

This sun protection policy has three strands: organisational, environmental and educative.

2.1 Organisational

- 2.1.1** In the hot months of summer, physical education lessons will be scheduled indoors wherever possible (except for aquatics).
- 2.1.2** All school carnivals will be held at venues that afford maximum shade areas or the school will provide shelter.
- 2.1.3** All students will be required to purchase a school bucket hat or cap as part of the uniform.
- 2.1.4** The wearing of bucket hats or caps for outdoor physical education lessons, excursions and PE activities is compulsory. Broad brimmed or bucket hats are compulsory for Outdoor Education (caps are insufficient).
- 2.1.5** Sunscreen will be available for students at school during the day.
- 2.1.6** Students are to wear hats and are also urged to use sunscreen whenever they are exposed to the sun. This includes lunchtimes and morning tea. (Hats are to be worn on ovals).

2.2 Environmental

- 2.2.1** Shaded areas will be provided around the school grounds in as many places as possible. The shade may be from trees, or from built environment features such as roofing, sails, or umbrellas.

2.3 Educative

- 2.3.1** Information and learning experiences about the dangers of exposure to the sun will be built into the school curriculum.
- 2.3.2** Strategies for protection from the sun will be included in the school curriculum.
- 2.3.3** Particular emphasis to sun protection will be given for events such as the swimming carnival, athletics carnival and cross country.
- 2.3.4** Staff will model sun protection by wearing hats on grounds duty and other outdoor activities.