



SUN POLICY – SKIN CANCER PREVENTION STRATEGY

Created: Apr 2008

Updated: Jan 2016

Review Date: Jan 2018

Rationale

Queensland has the highest rates of skin cancer in Australia and exposure to ultra violet radiation from the sun has been identified as the most important risk factor for skin cancer, the epidemiological evidence indicating that early childhood exposure is particularly significant. Exposure to the sun can be reduced through the use of sun protection clothing, application of SPF 30+ sunscreen and the use of quality shade.

St Aidan's supports the promotion of sun-safe behaviour to minimise exposure of staff and students to the harmful effects of the sun.

- Staff and students are expected to wear hats, protective clothing and sun screen.
- Staff are expected to model appropriate sun protective behaviours.
- Parents are encouraged to also model appropriate sun protective behaviours.
- Sun screen is made available for students to use.
- The provision of protection from the sun is an important consideration when selecting or designing sport clothing and uniforms for outdoor workers.
- In the management and development of facilities and the School grounds the provision of shade area is an important consideration.

Strategies

In addition, the school has the expectation that:

- The use of shade areas be promoted by staff.
- Staff list sunscreen (SPF 30+) as necessary item for students to bring to outdoor sport competitions, excursions and camps.
- Student education about the harmful effects of the sun and awareness of the need for sun protective behaviours be promoted through the curriculum, particularly in the Health and Physical Education and Science programs.
- Sporting events be scheduled to reduce sun exposure (preferably outside the hours of 10 am and 3 pm) and/or at sporting venues provision is to be made for access to shade.
- Sun protection be considered in managing the working conditions of outdoor workers and grounds staff.
- All students must have a broad brimmed hat (the Panama) of school design.
- Hats must be worn for outdoor activities such as Health and Physical Education lessons, playtimes, camps and excursions – the policy is 'No Hat, No play'.
- Students should apply sun screen SPF 30+ before an outdoor activity or swimming lesson (sunscreen SPF 30+ is to be made available).
- As role models, staff are expected to wear hats or use umbrellas when outside e.g. on playground duty.
- All students not wearing a hat at break times or in class activities must be sitting in shade or moved into the shade by the teacher on duty.
- Sunsmart messages will be featured in the School Newsletter.
- This policy and sun protection action will be monitored and reviewed each year by the Principal.