

ST. JOSEPH'S PRIMARY LEETON



SUNSMART POLICY

SUN PROTECTION

Rationale

Primary Schools can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and the number of related deaths by encouraging all members of the school community to take effective skin protective measures.

Aims:

The aims of the Sun Smart Policy are to promote among students, staff and parents:

- Positive attitudes towards skin protection
- Lifestyle practices which can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and the number of related deaths
- Personal responsibility for and decision making about skin protection
- Awareness of the need for environmental changes in schools to reduce the level of exposure to the sun.

Strategies

- Students and teachers will wear hats which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside eg sport, sports carnivals, outdoor excursions and activities.
- **Students who do not have their hats with them will be sent to the COLA protected from the sun as a consequence of the school's "NO HAT NO PLAY" policy.**
- Students will be encouraged to use available areas of shade for outdoor play activities.
- Outdoor activities will be held in areas of shade whenever possible.
- Teachers will schedule outdoor activities before 10am and after 2pm (11am and 3pm daylight saving time) whenever possible.
- Staff will be encouraged to act as role models by practising Sun Smart behaviour i.e. wearing protective hats and appropriate clothing for all outdoor activities, using a SPF 15+ broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen for skin protection, seeking shade whenever possible.
- All physical activity lessons will be held after 11:50am, (9:00 - 11:00am is St Joseph's Primary Literacy Block) and will not be conducted when the temperature exceeds a temperature deemed unsafe by the Principal.
- **Temperature reading is taken in the shade and when at 35° indoor lunch or recess will be called. Students will be supervised in their grade area by the grade teachers.**

Schools should

- Ensure that school hats are appropriate and satisfy Cancer Council guidelines.
- Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
- Provide shelter and shade areas.
- Encourage and support the use of SPF 15+ broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen for staff and students.
- Limit exposure time through timetable changes when possible.
- Incorporate programs in skin cancer prevention within the curriculum.
- Reinforce regularly the Sun Smart Policy in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.

When enrolling a child, parents should be:

- Informed of the Sun Smart Policy.
- Requested to purchase a school hat or provide an appropriate hat for their child's use.
- Encouraged to provide SPF 15+ broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen for their child's use.
- Encouraged to act as positive role models and practice skin protective behaviour themselves, particularly when attending school functions.

This policy was reviewed in 2013 and to be reviewed again in 2015