

**SUN SAFETY POLICY**

**RATIONALE**

Year-round sun protection is important for all children and young people in Queensland as research demonstrates that high ultraviolet radiation (UVR) exposure in childhood and adolescence significantly increases the risk of developing skin cancer.

Our school aims to educate our students about being sun safe in order to develop important, life-long, healthy habits, and acknowledges the important role adults play during and outside school hours to reinforce sun safety with children and young people.

In implementing this policy, our school and community recognise that:

- the policy applies to all school and school-related activities and events
- the strategies are to be implemented during the whole school day and year-round
- a combination of sun safe strategies is more effective than a single approach

**Date of commencement:** March 2024

**Review date:** March 2025

ELEMENT	STRATEGIES
<b>Clothing requirements</b>	<p>Students are required to wear protective clothing, including appropriate hats, when outdoors during the school day and during school-related activities (for example, excursions/camps) to reduce students' exposure to the sun, including the following strategies:</p> <p><b>Hats</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students are required to wear appropriate hats when outdoors.</li> <li>• Staff remind students to wear hats during lunch breaks, and to and from outdoor activities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Swim shirts</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Students are required to wear swim shirts/rash vests during all water-based activities occurring at outdoor venues, except during their race/s at competitions and carnivals.</li> </ul>
<b>Shade provision and use</b>	<p>Our school maximises the use of available shade for outdoor activities:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Sports activities are held in either our Multi-Purpose Court that is shaded by sail or undercover areas.</li> <li>• Our walkways are undercover.</li> <li>• Temporary shade structures are used as necessary for outdoor events.</li> </ul>
<b>Education</b>	<p>Our school provides educational programs on sun safety and preventative measures through the following strategies:</p> <p><b>Incidental teaching and promoting sun safe behaviours</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incidental teaching of personal sun safety strategies occurs in all year levels as part of the school routine on a regular basis, for example, through reminders to students to wear hats and apply sunscreen.</li> </ul> <p><b>Staff professional development</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff are informed about the school's sun safety policy and its requirements on induction.</li> </ul>
<b>Sunscreen provision</b>	<p>Our school recognises the importance of sunscreen use as a sun safe measure and implements the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The school supplies SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for student use.</li> <li>• Parents/carers are encouraged to provide sunscreen for their child if their preference is to supply their own.</li> </ul>
<b>Modelling sun safe behaviours</b>	<p>Our school promotes the importance of parents/carers, teachers, ancillary staff, volunteers and other adult supervisors as role models for students using the following strategies:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Staff are encouraged to consider the use of shade, sun safe hats and clothing, sunglasses and sunscreen when doing their duties, running outside activities, and when on excursions/camps.</li> </ul>

**Endorsed by:**

Melissa Simpson, P&C President

Nick Hart, WHS Representative & Deputy Principal.

**Approved by:**

Snjezana de Kroon, Acting Principal

**Date of approval:**

29/4/24