

Sun Safety

Each school is required to develop a sun safety strategy that will address the following:

- Provision of effective educational programs on sun safety and preventive measures
- Maximising the use of available shade for outdoor activities;
- Provision of flexible planning of activities to reduce, as far as practicable, time spent by students in the sun between 10.00 a.m. and 2.00 p.m.
- Inclusion of shade tree planting and caring programs in grounds development.
- Consideration of sun protection when determining or reviewing school uniform designs
- Encouragement for the wearing of swim shirts during all water-based activities in all state schools;
- Requirements for all state schools to provide an SPF 30+ broad spectrum water-based sunscreen for students to use on uncovered areas of the skin, such as the face and the back of the hands for all outdoor activities;
- Consideration of sun protection in relation to parents and citizens association projects and activities; and
- Promotion of the importance of parents, teachers, ancillary staff and voluntary helpers as role models for students in relation to sun protection strategies

The implementation of an effective sun safety strategy, and the particular considerations listed above, depend on the joint efforts of school, students, parents and P&C Association. Each has an interest, expertise and a responsibility in specific sections of the list.

Parents play a significant role in sun safety through developing the correct attitude in their children, ensuring their children take sun safety precautions and modelling good practice.

The P&C Association plays a significant role through working with the school to establish a sun-safe environment, supporting the provision of sun screen through the canteens, working with the school to develop sun-safe uniforms.

Teachers play a significant role by reinforcing sun safety precautions and addressing relevant items on the above list, e.g. wearing of hats, appropriate time and place of activities and provision of sun-screen where appropriate.

The school plays a significant role in developing expectations regarding the wearing of appropriate uniform items, ensuring that sun screen is provided,

timing activities where possible to reinforce sun safety considerations and working with the P&C Association to develop a sun safe school environment.

Students play a significant role by realizing that sun safety is serious, by making sure that they develop sun safe habits and practices through wearing sun screen, and sun protective clothing and keeping out of direct sun where possible.

The school takes specific actions to play its part in sun safety. These include:

- Having hats as part of the school uniform. Hats both as part of the formal uniform and for sport appear on the uniform lists.
- Encouraging the wearing of hats while at school, during outdoor activities and during recess.
- Introducing a “no hat - no play” practice for students using the oval, tennis courts and basketball courts during recess.
- Providing bulk sun screen for students taking Health and Physical Education lessons. This sun screen is available from HPE teachers.
- Encouraging students to refresh their sun screen from the bulk containers located at the canteens
- Regularly reminding students of the importance of sun safe practices.