

Te Kohanga Primary School Sun Safety Policy



Rationale:

Excessive exposure to ultraviolet radiation (UVR) from the sun causes sunburn, skin damage and increases the risk of skin cancer. Getting sunburnt in childhood and adolescence will increase the risk of melanoma and other skin cancers in later life.

This sun protection policy will apply during Terms 1 and 4, (especially between 10am and 4pm).

As part of this policy the school will:

- Require children to wear a broad-brimmed or bucket hat when they are outside - for example during interval, lunch, sports, excursions and activities.
- Provide hats for children to borrow when at school.
- Encourage students to wear clothing that protects their skin from the sun even when out of uniform (for example with sleeves and collars, and rash tops when swimming outside).
- Implement a "No Hat, Play in the Shade" policy. Require children without hats or with bare shoulders to play in the shade or indoors.
- Work with the school community to promote students' use of SPF 30 broad-spectrum sunscreen.
- Make sunscreen available to students at school outdoor activities, particularly at sports days and similar events.
- Encourage all staff to role model SunSmart behaviour, for example use appropriate hats within the school grounds and during outdoor school activities.
- Regularly publicise and reinforce the SunSmart Policy (for example through newsletters, school website, parent meetings, and student and teacher activities).
- Talk to parents about the school's SunSmart Policy at enrolment and encourage parents to practise SunSmart behaviour, i.e. in school newsletters and enrolment packs.

Curriculum

- Incorporate SunSmart activities at all year levels during Term 1.

Environment

- Continue maintaining existing fixed and shade sails to ensure shade coverage is maintained.

- Continue to grow and prune the large number of native and introduced trees in the school grounds.
- Wherever possible organise outdoor activities before 10am or after 4pm when UVR levels are lower.
- Include a sun exposure assessment in the Risk Analysis and Management system for any Education Outside The Classroom (EOTC) plan for outdoor activity.

Supporting and evaluating SunSmart behaviour

- Ensure on-going assessment of SunSmart behaviour, shade and curriculum emphasis.
- The Board of Trustees and Principal will review the school's SunSmart policy at least every three years.

Approved by: _____ **(Principal)**

Approved by: _____ **(Board Chair)**

Date: _____

Review Date: _____

Adapted from the SunSmart example policy.