

## **SUNHATS POLICY**

### **Rationale**

New Zealand , along with Australia, has the highest Melanoma rates in the world. One or more episodes of sunburn in childhood have been shown to increase the risk of melanoma later in life. As part of our Health and Safety Policy and associated School Uniform Policy, we believe it is necessary for children to be aware of keeping themselves safe in the sun.

### **Purpose**

1. To protect from harmful UV radiation from the sun whilst at school.
2. To raise awareness of the potential hazards of the sun.
3. To promote Sun-safe health habits.
4. To follow requirements of the school uniform policy and dress code.

### **Guidelines**

1. Whilst outside of the classroom and during the summer months all school staff and pupils shall wear broad-brimmed (min 7.5 cms), legionnaire or bucket hats (min 6cm. brim, deep crown) sunhats.
2. Children have a school sunhat as part of the official school uniform.
3. “No hat, play in the shade” policy requires students without hats to play in the shade.
4. The policy of wearing sunhats will apply during Terms 1 and 4, with the commencement and termination dates left to the discretion of the Principal.
5. School sports teams will be issued with school sunhats for any sporting events as applicable.
6. Work with the wider school community to promote the use of SPF 30+ broad-spectrum sunscreen by students.
7. Regularly publicise and reinforce the SunSmart policy, through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.
8. Inform parents of the SunSmart policy at enrolment, especially the use of appropriate hats, clothing, SPF 30+ sunscreen, and encourage parents to practise SunSmart behaviour themselves.
9. Encourage children to wear clothing that protects the skin from the sun

- (e.g sleeves and collars).
10. Work towards developing and improving existing shade, particularly in areas where students congregate. Shade can be both built and natural (e.g. constructed shelter and trees).
  11. Wherever possible schedule outdoor activities and sports events before 11am.
  12. Wherever possible, outdoor activities will be held in areas with plenty of shade.
  13. Incorporate SunSmart education and activities at all levels when delivering the curriculum.

## **Conclusion**

Whilst children attend this school, we undertake to keep them as safe and aware of the hazards of the sun as is reasonably possible and to wear the school uniform correctly .

This policy will be reviewed by the Board of Trustees and Principal at least once every 3 years.