

WAIPARA PRIMARY SCHOOL

Shady School Policy

Rationale:

This Policy is adopted to ensure that the children attending Waipara School are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultra violet (UVR) rays of the sun, which can lead to melanoma in later life.

Guidelines:

As part of general skin protection strategies, Waipara School will:

1. Endeavour to provide shade at sporting and other outdoor events.
2. Ensure there are enough shelters and trees providing shade in the school grounds.
3. Incorporate programmes on being Sun Smart into its curriculum m- www.sunsmartschools.co.nz and www.undercovercody.co.nz.
4. Require children to wear their own hats which protect the face, neck and ears when they are outside (e.g. break, lunch, sports, trips and activities). Encourage children to play in the shade. Hats will be provided for those that do not have them. Hats should have a minimum 6cm on brim.
5. Encourage children to wear clothing which protects the skin from the sun (e.g. sleeves and collars). Rash vests are encouraged when children are swimming.
6. Provide SPF50+ broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen for staff and children's use.
7. Encourage staff to act as role models by –
 - wearing appropriate hats and clothing for outdoor activities
 - using a SPF 50+ broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen for skin protection
 - seeking shade whenever possible.
8. Regularly reinforce the Shady School Policy in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, pupil and teacher activities.
9. If a sporting event precludes the practical use of a wide brimmed hat, SPF50+ broad spectrum sunscreen must be used regularly.
10. Where possible, in Terms One and Four, try and schedule outdoor activities in the early morning.
11. Include a sun exposure assessment in the Risk Analysis and Management System for any EOTC plan for outdoor activity.
12. Ongoing assessment of Sun Smart behaviour, shade provision and curriculum emphasis will occur.

When enrolling their child, parents will be –

- Informed of the Shady School Policy.
- Requested to ensure their child/ren bring a suitable hat to school in the summer months.
- Encouraged to provide SPF50+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for their child/ children's use at school. Sunscreen will also be provided by the school.
- Encouraged to practice sun protective behaviours themselves.

Conclusion:

This policy is to be implemented during the high risk times during Terms One and Four. However, from the beginning of September UVR levels are increasing, therefore sun protection should be used in this month when children are outdoors for extended periods (e.g.sports days). During the winter months sun protection is unnecessary. This policy will assist our pupils to develop sun sense and avoid over exposure to the sun.

Signed: Victoria McGuckin

Date: 28 May, 2020