



SUN SAFETY POLICY

No 504

Rationale

New Zealand has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world. Research has shown that prolonged exposure to the sun can cause melanomas and that children are particularly vulnerable to harmful rays.

Policy Statement

The school management staff will:

1. inform the school community of the dangers in harmful ultra-violet rays.
2. provide a safer environment for staff and students.
3. encourage sun safe practices.

Policy Guidelines

1. Reminders will be put into school newsletters to bring named hats and sunscreen for wearing at school, at outdoor events and on school trips.
2. The school will incorporate educational programmes and prevention measures in the school's Health Education programme.
3. During terms one and four in particular:
 - Students will be encouraged to wear hats for outdoor activities.
 - Students will be encouraged to wear sunscreen.
 - Students will be encouraged to seek shade for any outdoor activities where possible.
4. The Board will maintain a planting programme to provide shade trees and shrubs.
5. Staff will provide positive reinforcement to students who take appropriate sun safety measures.
6. Where budget allows, the Board will work to provide suitable shade areas.
7. While on outdoor trips or participating in outdoor sport activities, including spectators, the school will require students to use suitable protective measures.

Ratified by Board: 4 September 2023

Next Review: September 2026
