



Renwick School – Sun Smart Policy & Procedures

Rationale

Excessive exposure to ultraviolet radiation (UVR) from the sun causes sunburn, skin damage and increases the risk of skin cancer. New Zealand, along with Australia, has the highest melanoma rates in the world. One or more episodes of sunburn in childhood and adolescence have been shown to increase the risk of melanoma later in life.

This sun protection policy will apply during Terms 1 and 4, (especially between 10am and 4pm). However, from beginning of September UVR levels are increasing, therefore, sun protection should be used in September when children are outdoors for extended periods e.g. sports days). During the winter months sun protection is unnecessary.

This policy has been adopted so that children attending Renwick School are protected from harmful UV radiation from the sun.

As part of general SunSmart strategies, during Terms 1 and 4, between 10am and 4pm, our school will:

Behaviour

- Require children to wear broad-brimmed legionnaire or bucket hats when they are outside (e.g. interval, lunch, sport, excursions and activities) during Terms 1 and 4.
- Implement a "No Hat, Play in the Shade" policy. Require children without hats to play in shade or indoors.
- Work with wider school community to promote students' use of SPF 30+ broad-spectrum sunscreen.
- Encourage children to wear clothing that protects the skin from the sun (e.g. sleeves and collars).
- Encourage staff to role model SunSmart behaviour, particularly the use of appropriate hats, within the school grounds and during outdoor school activities.
- Regularly publicise and reinforce the SunSmart Policy, for example, through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.
- 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.

Curriculum

- Incorporate SunSmart education and activities at all levels when delivering the curriculum and utilize the resources available on www.sunsmartschools.org.nz

Environment

- 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).
- Whenever possible schedule outdoor activities and sports events before 10am.
- Organise outdoor activities to be held in areas with plenty of shade whenever possible.

Reinforcement and evaluation

Ensure ongoing assessment of SunSmart behaviour, shade provision, and curriculum emphasis.

- Review of the SunSmart policy by the Board of Trustees and Principal at least every 3 years.

Prepared by Principal & Staff

Reviewed: March 2015

Reviewed: March 2017