

**Nuwarra Public School**

*“Excellence, Innovation, Opportunity”*

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**Sun Safe Policy**

**Rationale**

Schools have a responsibility to provide a safe environment for students and staff and this responsibility includes the provision of adequate protection from the sun throughout the year. Effective school action on sun protection will ensure that our school makes a significant contribution to the community efforts to reduce skin cancer and related skin damage.

The **aims** of the sun protection policy are to:

* Increase student and community awareness and positive attitudes towards sun protection.
* Encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures.
* Ensure a sun safe school environment that provides shade for students, staff and the school community.
* Assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection.

*Our sun protection strategies:*

The sun protection policy is implemented all year round, with a combination of the following sun protection strategies.

**Scheduling outdoor activities**

* Sun protection is considered when planning all outdoor events e.g. assemblies, camps, excursions, and sporting events. Where possible, outdoor activities are held earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon.

**Shade**

* The school community is committed to providing shade in the school grounds. Shade is provided near the canteen, hall and COLA areas.
* The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all other outdoor activities.
* Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.
* Students who do not have sun safe (school) hats are required to play in the shade – under the COLA areas.

**Hats**

* Students are required to wear regulation school hats that provide protection.
* Students are encouraged to wear school hats when travelling home, especially if walking.

**Clothing**

* Sun safe clothing is included in our school uniform and sports uniform. School clothing is made of close weave fabric and includes shirts with collars and longer sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts.

**Sunscreen**

* SPF 30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen is available for staff and student use. Where possible, sunscreen is applied before going outdoors.
* Under teachers' supervision, children apply sunscreen themselves.
* The parents of children with sensitivities to some sunscreens inform the school and provide suitable sunscreen for their children's use.

**Sunglasses**

* Students are permitted to wear close fitting, wrap around sunglasses that cover as much of the eye area as possible, purchased from the school uniform shop.

**Role modelling of staff**

Staff are asked to role model good sun protection behaviours by:

* Wearing sun safe hats, sun safe clothing and sunglasses when outside.
* Applying SPF 30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen
* Seeking shade whenever possible.

**Curriculum**

* Teachers deliver a Sun Protection Unit in all K-6 classes at the beginning of Term 1 each year.
* Use the school rules, *‘Show Respect’, ‘Be Safe’ & ‘Always Try’* to educate sun safe protection.

**Information to the school community**

* Sun protection information is regularly promoted within the school community through newsletters, school website, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies and on student enrolment.
* Families and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures (safe clothing and hats, sunscreen and sunglasses) when participating in and attending outdoor activities including the athletics and cross country carnivals.

**Review**

* School parent body, staff and students will regularly monitor and review the effectiveness of the sun protection policy (at least once every three years) and revise the policy when required.