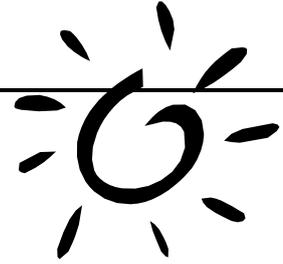




Pinnacle State School

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SunSmart Policy Statement

Rationale

Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Of all new cancers diagnosed in Australia each year, 80% are skin cancers. Research indicates that childhood sun exposure is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer in later life. Given that students are at school during peak ultraviolet radiation (UVR) times throughout the day, schools play a major role in both minimising student's UVR exposure and providing an environment where policies and procedures can positively influence student behaviour.

Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun. Research shows that severe sunburn contributes to skin cancer and other forms of skin damage such as sunspots, blemishes and premature ageing. Most skin damage and skin cancer is therefore preventable.

Ultraviolet radiation (UVR) levels are highest during the hours that children are at school. As children will spend a portion of their day outdoors, we are committed to protecting them from harmful effects of the sun.

With this in mind, Pinnacle State Primary School realises the need to protect children's skin and educate them about SunSmart behaviour, thus reducing the risk to skin damage from exposure to the sun.

Aims

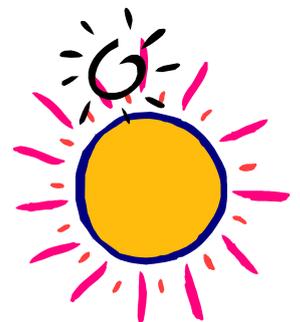
The policy aims to:

- Provide ongoing education that promotes personal responsibility for skin cancer prevention and early detection
- Provide environments that support SunSmart practices
- Create an awareness of the need to reschedule outdoor activities to support SunSmart practices.

Procedures

Ours school recognises that winter sun also contributes to skin damage. This policy will therefore be implemented throughout the year.

The purpose of the SunSmart policy is to ensure that all children attending our establishment are protected from the harmful effects of the sun throughout the year.



Our Commitment



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Pinnacle State Primary School will:

- ❖ Inform parents of the SunSmart policy when they enrol their child
- ❖ Include the SunSmart policy statement in the school prospectus
- ❖ Increase the amount of shade in the school grounds, where possible, by building shelters and planting trees
- ❖ Incorporate education programs that focus on skin cancer prevention into the school curriculum
- ❖ Encourage all teachers and staff to act as positive role models for children in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour
- ❖ Seek ongoing support from parents and the school community for the SunSmart policy and its implementation, through newsletters, parent meetings etc.
- ❖ Ensure that all students and staff wear hats that protect the face, neck and ears when involved in outdoor activities, and encourage the application of SPF 30+ broad spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen
- ❖ Ensure school assemblies, meetings etc are held under covered areas
- ❖ Encourage students to use shaded covered areas at eating times
- ❖ Ensure students without adequate sun protection use the covered areas at lunch times
- ❖ Ensure students wear SunSmart swimwear during swimming lessons
- ❖ Ensure students are wearing SunSmart appropriate clothing, including collars & sleeves
- ❖ Review the school dress code to conform with the Queensland Cancer Fund SunSmart clothing guidelines
- ❖ Ensure that, wherever practicable, outdoor activities take place before 10am and after 3pm and utilise shade as much as practicable
- ❖ Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and other outdoor events
- ❖ Ensure that SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen is available at the school
- ❖ Have SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen listed with other items that students are required to buy for the school year
- ❖ Review the SunSmart policy annually

Our Expectations

Parents / careers will:

- Provide a SunSmart hat for their child and ensure that they wear it to and from school. The Queensland Cancer Fund recommends the following hats:
 - 8-10cm broad brimmed
 - legionnaire-style
- ensure that their child applies SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before leaving for school
- ensure that their child's clothing provides adequate protection from UVR. The Queensland cancer Fund recommends clothing with the following feature:
 - dark-coloured
 - collars and sleeves
 - closely woven fabric
 - natural fibre
- act as positive role models by practising SunSmart behaviour
- support the school's SunSmart policy and help to design and regularly update the policy.

Students will:



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- Be aware of the school's SunSmart policy
 - Take responsibility for their own health and safety by being SunSmart
 - Comply with SunSmart rules and guidelines by wearing suitable hats, clothing, sunscreen and sunglasses
 - Apply SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors
 - Use shade or covered areas when outdoors
 - Act as positive role models for other students in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour
 - Participate in SunSmart education programs.



Considered and accepted by the Principal

Considers and accepted by Staff Members

Consider and accepted by Parents & Citizens Committee

Considered and accepted by Student Representative