St Joseph’s Primary School Coraki

Sun Safety Policy

RATIONALE
Both teaching staff and students spend a proportion of each school day in school grounds and can be exposed to the sun. Ultraviolet radiation from the sun can cause sunburn on both sunny and cloudy days. Sunburn can lead to skin cancer. Australian Cancer research has shown that for children and adolescents generally, the years at school are the crucial period for experiencing damaging levels of exposure to the sun which may lead to skin cancer later in life.

St Joseph’s has a general duty of care to take reasonable care to protect both staff and students from harm caused by the sun. Strategies must include: school’s physical environment; timetabling of outdoor activities, clothing and sunscreen protection.

POLICY
St Joseph’s Primary School is committed to the provision of workable and effective strategies to protect the physical well-being of students and staff that are exposed to ultraviolet radiation from the sun in the course of school activities.

The school will ensure that:

- All members of our community are aware of and are expected to actively support this policy. Students and parents will receive reminders through assemblies and newsletters and sun safety lessons will be covered in the teaching of PDHPE.
- Students and staff are advised to wear protective hats and clothing for outdoors activities. Staff are to act as sun safety role models.

CONSEQUENCES

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT
1. Outdoor activities will be held in areas of shade whenever possible
2. Students will be actively encouraged to play in one of the shaded areas of the school at lunchtime and recess.
3. Students will be encouraged to bring water bottles to school
4. Shade shelters will be erected for sporting events

CLOTHING
1. Students must wear the school hat (broad brimmed) for any outdoor activity
2. Depending on the nature of activity, time of day and any matter the school considers relevant, St Joseph’s will adopt a “No hat, play in the shade policy” rule to ensure students wear appropriate protection during outdoor activities.
3. Rash Vests are recognised as sun safe swim wear. Students must wear a rash vest or sports shirt when at Swimming Carnivals (and not racing) or not in the water for any length of time

SUNSCREEN PROTECTION
1. Students will be encouraged to apply sunscreen at home before school
2. Sunscreen will be made available to all students during lunch breaks and outdoor activities. Sunscreen will be made available from the front of the canteen.
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<tr>
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