

SUN SAFE POLICY

Introduction

Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world with approximately two in three Australians being diagnosed with skin cancer by the time they are 70 and over 1,770 deaths recorded each year from melanoma.

Much of the sun exposure that causes skin damage occurs in childhood and adolescence. By the age of 15 many children have developed irreversible skin damage from exposure to the sun. While skin cancer is the most common cancer in Australia, it is estimated that 95% of skin cancers can be prevented through reducing exposure to ultraviolet radiation from the sun.

Each school has a responsibility to provide a safe environment for students and staff and this includes providing adequate protection from the sun.

Aims

- Positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- Personal responsibility for and decision making about skin protection.

Implementation

Byron Community Primary School (BCPS) undertakes to encourage and promote the SunSmart Program, in conjunction with Cancer Council NSW, all year round by:

- Outdoor activities will be held in areas of shade whenever possible.
- Teachers will schedule outdoor activities, where possible, outside peak UV times and consider all protection measures when planning excursions.
- Students are to wear hats outside during lunch and recess time all year round.
- No hat, no play – the students will be given a chance to get a hat if they have forgotten but if they don't have a hat they will have to sit in the shade by the office.
- Parent(s) or guardian(s) to be notified letting them know their child is without a hat.
- Students to be encouraged to wear sun safe clothing.
- Teacher incorporate sun protection principles into the curriculum.
- Staff will be encouraged to act as role models by practising SunSmart behaviour.

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed annually.

This policy was drafted
Ratified by the Board of Directors

February 2012
February 2020