

## Guidelines and Procedures

New Zealand has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world. Research has shown that prolonged exposure to the sun is highly likely to cause melanomas and that children are particularly vulnerable to harmful ultra violet radiation. The sun protection guidelines are implemented when the UVI is at 3 or higher.

### At West Park School:

- All staff, students and parents/caregivers are informed of the sun protection guidelines and its intended practices.
- Teachers are required to act as positive role models on issues of sun safety.
- During terms 1 and 4:
  - Students are required to wear hats for outdoor activities (broad brimmed - min 7.5 cm brim, legionnaire or bucket hat – min 6cm brim, deep crown);
  - Students are required to seek shade for any outdoor activities where possible;
  - Teachers must consider sun safety issues when planning outdoor activities;
  - Outdoor activities are re-scheduled where possible to minimise time outdoors between 10am and 4pm.
- Parents and caregivers may provide sunscreen for their children's use at school. Children are responsible for self-application of sunscreens.
- The use of SPF 30+ sunscreen is encouraged.
- The use of sun protective clothing is encouraged (eg. sleeves and collars).
- The Board maintains a planting and building programme over the longer term to ensure adequate provision of shady areas for student and staff use during outdoor activities.
- Staff provide positive reinforcement to students who take appropriate sun safety measures. The school strictly enforces the "no hat, no play" approach during terms 1 and 4. Children who are not wearing a protective sunhat are directed to designated shade areas.
- The Guidelines and Procedures are reviewed at least once every three years.

**Reviewed: DECEMBER 2020**