



SUNSAFE POLICY

Rationale

Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Two out of every three Queenslanders will develop some sort of skin cancer in their lifetime. Research suggests that at least two-thirds of all melanomas occurring in Australia could be prevented if children were protected from the sun during their first 15 years.

Ultraviolet radiation (UVR) levels are highest during the hours that children are at school.

With this in mind, St Anthony's realises the need to protect children's skin and educate them about the damage the sun can cause, thus reducing the risk of skin damage from exposure to the sun. The policy aims to promote personal responsibility for skin cancer prevention and early detection, and to provide an environment that supports SunSafe practices.

Guidelines

St Anthony's School Commitment:

To ensure that all children attending our school are protected from the harmful effects of the sun throughout the year, St Anthony's School will:

Inform parents of the SunSafe policy.	Include in Parent Handbook and provide on School Website.
Include the SunSafe policy in the school Policy and Practise document.	Included in this document.



<p>Ensure the existence of shade in the school grounds and to encourage children to use the shade when possible.</p>	<p>Provision of shaded areas within the school and staff direction during duties. Commitment to factoring future shade into existing and future building projects.</p>
<p>Encourage all teachers and staff to act as positive role models for children in all aspects of SunSafe behaviour.</p>	<p>Include in Staff Handbook and include in Staff In-service Training.</p>
<p>Seek ongoing support from parents and the school community for the SunSafe policy.</p>	<p>Involve P&F review and feedback.</p>
<p>Ensure that all students and staff wear hats that protect the face, neck and ears when involved in outdoor activities and have access to Sun Screen where parental consent is supplied.</p>	<p>Staff provided with sun safe hats and school uniform has adequate sun safe factors. Sunscreen provided by school and parental consent required for students to apply.</p>
<p>Expect that students without adequate sun protection sit in shaded areas at morning tea and lunch times, obeying the rule, 'No Hat, No Play'.</p>	<p>Teachers ensure that students have and wear sunhats – stipulated area for students to sit out if not adequately protected from the sun. (This is the area in front of the whiteboard in the quadrangle.)</p>
<p>Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and other outdoor events.</p>	<p>Incorporate into risk assessments for school events.</p>
<p>Review the SunSmart policy on a regular basis.</p>	<p>Review policy every 5 years.</p>

Parental Commitment:

To ensure that all children attending our school are protected from the harmful effects of the sun throughout the year, parents with children at St Anthony's School will:

<p>Provide a school uniform hat for their child, and ensure that they wear it to and from school.</p>	<p>Parents will provide the approved St Anthony's school uniform and ensure that students wear hats to and from school.</p>
<p>Encourage their child to apply SPF 15 or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen before leaving for school and either a) provide signed consent for the use of sunscreen at school or b) supply their child with their own supply of sunscreen.</p>	<p>Parents will encourage children to wear sunscreen to school and advise them of the need to apply throughout the day. Parents will advise their child if they are to use the school provided sunscreen or their own supply.</p>
<p>Act as a positive role model by practising SunSafe behaviour, including wearing sunsafe clothing whilst in school grounds and at school functions.</p>	<p>Parents are encouraged to wear appropriate sunsafe clothing to model positive behaviour for children.</p>
<p>Support the school's SunSafe policy.</p>	<p>Parents will actively promote and model positive behaviours for students in line with the St Anthony's Sunsafe Policy.</p>



Student Commitment:

To ensure that all students attending our school are protected from the harmful effects of the sun throughout the year, student at St Anthony’s School will:

Be aware of the school’s SunSafe policy.	This will be communicated via school staff members and parents.
Take responsibility for their own health and safety by being SunSafe.	Students will take responsibility for their own actions and undertake Sunsafe practices at school.
Comply with SunSafe rules and guidelines by wearing suitable hats and other sun protection when appropriate, particularly during PE, swimming, lunch break and excursions.	Students will ensure that they wear their hat and other sunsafe clothing as required - eg. Swimming shirts, collared shirts, etc.
Encourage children to apply SPF 15or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen before going outdoors.	Students will apply sunscreen when directed by class teachers (unless directed otherwise via parental consent forms).
Use shaded or covered areas wherever possible when outdoors.	Students will play in shaded areas as well as outdoor areas.
Act as positive role models for other students in all aspects of SunSafe behaviour.	Students will model positive Sunsafe behaviour to their peers and other students by actively participating in Sunsafe practices.



Participate in and support any SunSafe education program.	Students will undertake and assist in Sunsafe Education throughout the year. This will be both class directed and self-directed.