SUN SMART POLICY

PURPOSE

This policy supports McAuley Catholic Central School’s commitment to ensuring a safe and supportive environment. It contributes to our obligation to ensure that McAuley Catholic Central School promotes and practises sun smart procedures.

RATIONALE

Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world, with one in two Australians developing some form of skin cancer during their lifetime. The main source of skin cancer is overexposure to UV radiation from the sun. Overexposure to the sun during childhood and adolescence is known to be a major cause of skin cancer. Common sites of skin damage and skin cancer are the neck, ears, temples, lips, face and nose. These areas usually receive more UV rays than other body parts. Protecting children from the sun means that they are less likely to have skin damage and to develop skin cancer in later life.

SUN PROTECTION GUIDELINES

1 HATS

1.1 The School hat is compulsory all year round for both secondary and primary students. Year 6 students may only wear a Secondary Campus hat in Term 4 of Year 6, if their hat needs replacing. If a student does not have a hat for play the “No Hat, No Play” rule will be reinforced by the teacher.

1.2 The Primary Campus students will have a choice of two styles of hats recommended by the Cancer Council. These styles are:

- Broad Brimmed Hat
- Legionnaire Hat

1.3 The Secondary Campus students will have a choice of two styles of hats recommended by the Cancer Council. These are:

- Bucket Hat
- Brushed Cotton Hat
2 SHADE

2.1 Seeking shade where possible in the playground (especially around the middle of the day) will be encouraged by staff on duty.

2.2 The school will provide portable shade structures for carnivals and special days, where the students will be exposed to sun for extended periods of time.

2.3 Regular audits of playground shade and shelter will be carried out through the school's Registration and Review process.

3 TIMETABLING

3.1 During Terms One and Four outdoor activities in teacher programs should be completed before 11.00am. UV rays are most intense (between 10am and 3pm) so teachers will avoid these times, wherever possible.

4 PROTECTIVE CLOTHING

4.1 Students are expected to wear sunsmart swim shirts when participating in swimming lessons and swimming carnivals.

4.2 Lightweight shirts with collars and long sleeves will be encouraged by teachers for athletic carnivals, where children are exposed to the sunlight for long periods of time.

5 SUN SCREEN

5.1 The application of SPF30+ broad spectrum and water-resistant sun screen will be encouraged by teachers for swimming and athletics carnivals.

6 EDUCATION

6.1 All students will receive instruction in the principles of sun protection during their normal Health curriculum.

Approved by: McAuley Executive
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