

Sun Smart Policy

Rationale

Raglan Area School Board of Trustees confirms their support of safe practices in the school. Student health and well-being is a primary responsibility. BOT will consider tree planting, covered areas and covered decks for shade in its strategic short and long term property plans.

Policy Statement/Purpose

To ensure that students and staff are aware of the growing risks associated with unprotected play in the full sun, Raglan Area School will educate for, and facilitate safe practices and procedures to protect students and staff.

Procedures

1. During School Terms, between 10am and 4pm, the school models “sun safe” practices and recommends that staff and students take steps to protect themselves.
2. Classroom curriculum will support and educate students for best practice in the sun. This will include using the many New Zealand teaching resources provided by the cancer society i.e. “Play safe in the sun” and “Sense in the sun” as well as sun-smart and skin cancer awareness education in Health Studies.
3. During during all intervals and outdoor activities staff are expected to role model being sun smart by wearing a hat. Years 0-6 hats are compulsory, Years 7 - 13 hats are strongly recommended. Constant reluctance of a student to wear a hat is a discussion for a teacher and parent to have to ensure the student understands the necessity and benefit of being sun smart and can continue to enjoy outdoor time at school.
4. It is the responsibility of parents to provide hats for their students.
5. Staff will include sun protection in the risk management plan developed for EOTC activities. Shade will be provided for sporting/outdoor events where possible.
6. Role modelling sun smart practices means staff and students need to apply sunscreen prior to undertaking outdoor activities. SPF 30 Broad spectrum sunscreen should be made available and accessible by students. Students will be encouraged to apply sunscreen before leaving home and/or carrying their own sunscreen.
7. Students (particularly years 0-6) will be strongly encouraged to eat in designated shady areas, and students without sun hat protection should be required to play in shadier areas, or inside.
8. The importance of fluid replacement during the day, and especially during sporting or outdoor events will be promoted.
9. Frequent reminders and support messages re-iterating this policy should be made often through newsletters and on the website during Terms 1 and 4.