POLICY: Promoting Sun Safety

Rationale
All schools in Queensland are committed to providing safe and supportive learning environments for all students which address their educational needs.

Enoggera State School expects that all enrolled students engage in sun safe practices to minimise harmful effects of the sun.

Enoggera State School’s sun safety policy aims to document our school’s approach to protecting students from the dangers of over-exposure to the sun.

School community beliefs about the importance of sun-safety
It is important that students, staff and parents/carers have a shared understanding of the importance of sun-safe practices. Enoggera State School:

- is committed to promoting the key messages of Sun Safety
- believes all children should be encouraged to engage in sun safe practices (clothing, shade, hats, sunscreen)
- monitors, communicates and implements strategies to protect students from the dangers of over-exposure to the sun
- believes awareness of sun-safety is the responsibility of everyone in the community.

Responsibilities
School responsibilities:

- promote a range of sun protection strategies/habits
- develop positive attitudes towards protecting skin
- challenge cultural complacency to sun exposure
- where possible reschedule outdoor activities
- develop and raise awareness of school’s sun safety policy with students, parents and staff

Student responsibilities:

- wear school uniform and bring a sun-safe hat to school every day
- apply sunscreen when directed by the class teacher
POLICY: Promoting Sun Safety

Parent responsibilities:

- ensure their child wears the school uniform and brings a sun-safe hat to school everyday
- ensure their child applies sunscreen to all uncovered skin areas prior to coming to school each day
- ensure their child knows how to apply sunscreen appropriately
- provide their child with their own convenient tube / roll-on of sunscreen, where possible
- ensure their child has a water bottle (filled with water only) to take into the classroom each day.

Strategies

At Enoggera State School we promote sun safety by:

- providing effective educational programs on sun safety and preventive measures
- maximising the use of available shade for outdoor activities
- providing flexible planning of activities to reduce, as far as practicable, time spent by students in the sun between 10.00 am and 2.00 pm
- considering sun protection when determining or reviewing school uniform designs
- requiring wearing of protective clothing including appropriate hats when in the sun during the school day
- requiring all students to wear swim shirts during all water-based activities, with the exception of competitions and carnivals
- providing an SPF 30+ broad spectrum water based sunscreen for students to use on uncovered areas of the skin, such as the face and the back of the hands, for all outdoor activities
- considering sun protection in relation to parents and citizens’ association projects and activities
- promoting the importance of parents, teachers, ancillary staff and voluntary helpers as role models for students in relation to sun protection strategies

Some related resources

Departmental Policies

Developing a Sun Safety Strategy

Managing Excessive Heat in Schools