Minimising the danger of excessive UV radiation exposure.

Rationale

Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world. Our exposure to the sun, particularly during childhood and adolescence, is known to be a major cause of skin cancer.

Definition

Ultra-violet (UV) radiation is part of the sun’s light which burns and damages the skin. Most children and adults can be sunburned after only 10 minute's exposure to the sun, particularly at times when the UV radiation levels are highest i.e. 10.00 am – 2.00 pm. UV radiation increases sharply from October, reaches its peak in January and decreases during March.

Policy

All students are actively encouraged to exercise protection against the effects of UV radiation:

- During Terms 1 and 4 all students are to wear wide-brimmed Flinders hats in the sun or whilst engaged in outdoor activities. In simple terms, all students are required to have a hat in Terms 1 and 4 and wear it whilst outside.

- Students are encouraged to use the shaded areas during breaks.

- The use of broad spectrum SPF 15+ sunscreen is encouraged where appropriate.

- All assemblies are held indoors or in shaded areas.

- All excursions, camps, etc. during the summer months require students to wear suitable hats, clothing and sunscreen.

- Students are encouraged to wear appropriate sunglasses while outdoors.