STATEMENT OF INTENT

Gin Gin SHS is committed to preventing skin cancer, the most prevalent form of cancer, among its students and employees. The School Community acknowledges that students spend a significant amount of time in the sun during school hours, and after school in sports and recreation programs. All students should possess the knowledge, attitudes, and skills necessary to protect their skin from harmful sun exposure and thereby help to prevent skin cancer. Gin Gin SHS families and the local community also have an important role in the school sun safety program.

The School Sun Safety Strategy needs to be evident in three major areas, with a consistent approach having the greatest chance of success.

References

Developing a Sun Safety Strategy

Cancer Council Australia
Shade for Secondary Schools - Compliance Strategies

POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Gin Gin SHS will endeavour to:

- Maximise the use of available shade for outdoor activities
- Provide flexible planning of activities to reduce as far as practicable the time spent in the sun by students between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m.
- Consider sun protection when designing the school uniform
- Require the wearing of protective clothing including appropriate hats when in the sun
- Encourage the use of 30+ broad-spectrum sunscreen
- Promote the importance of parents, teachers, ancillary staff and volunteers as role models for students in relation to sun safe strategies.

CURRICULUM TEACHING AND LEARNING

Sun safety programs should:

- Develop knowledge, skills, attitudes and values to make informed choices around sun safety
- Be a core component of the Health and Physical Education curriculum
- Be relevant to student experiences
- Be developmentally appropriate and selected to complement existing curriculum
COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

The school community will:

- Actively encourage parents/carers to comply with the Sun Safety Strategy when visiting the school or at school events
- Provide sun safety information as appropriate to parents and carers
- Encourage adherence to The Sun Safety Strategy at all P and C run events
- Participate in and support community-wide sun safety initiatives where possible.

STAFF AND STUDENT DRESS

The staff and students of Gin Gin SHS will

- wear a school bucket hat, approved broad brimmed hat or a suitable alternative when in the sun during the school day. (A bucket hat is available for purchase by staff and students – see Student Dress Code)
- wear swim shirts where practicable
- Apply SPF 30+ sunscreen on uncovered areas of the skin, such as face and back of the hands
- Wearing of sunglasses will be encouraged for prolonged exposure to the sun or all day events e.g. swimming carnival

Consequences

- Students without hats and/or sunscreen will not be permitted to participate in activities in sun exposed areas
- Non-compliant students will be issued with an appropriate consequence.

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Gin Gin State High School