

eftpos media release

24 August, 2014

45 Australian schools to receive new defence in fight against skin cancer with eftpos donation

Forty-five high schools across Australia have been selected to receive up to \$25,000 to fund better shading in their school grounds, thanks to Cancer Council grants made possible through the eftpos Giveback program.

The grants were awarded from a pool of over 380 applications and are designed to help protect adolescents' skin from UV damage during school hours.

The selected schools range from Condell Park High School in Sydney's western suburbs to Nhulunbuy High School in the Northern Territory.

Schools were asked to apply and show that there was a clear need for shade in their school, and to demonstrate that they were actively promoting SunSmart behaviour among students.

However, with an overwhelming number of schools applying for grants, Cancer Council Australia CEO, Professor Ian Olver, said there was still lots of work to be done to help fill the gap when it came to sun protection in our high schools

"Two in three Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer in their lifetime and adolescence is traditionally a period when Australians put themselves at risk," Professor Olver said.

"Almost one in eight eligible high schools submitted an application for shade funding. We were thrilled to see so many Australian high schools get behind this initiative and it's great that thanks to eftpos, we were able to offer 45 schools shade grants. Obviously more resources are required to keep tackling this issue."

eftpos made the funding available through its Giveback program, which encouraged Australians to support the cause by choosing CHQ or SAV at the checkout in the lead-up to Christmas last year.

eftpos Managing Director, Bruce Mansfield, said: "eftpos Australia is delighted to have been able to support Cancer Council's Shade for Secondary Schools Program, helping to provide vital shade to secondary schools across Australia.

"Thanks to the millions of Australians who support eftpos by pressing CHQ or SAV at the checkout, we were able to donate \$1 million to Cancer Council for this great shade program."

About eftpos

eftpos is the most widely used card system in Australia, accounting for more than 6 million eftpos transactions each day at more than 500,000 merchants, using 760,000 eftpos terminals. For more information on eftpos, please visit: www.eftposaustralia.com.au

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