



Frequently Asked Questions

What are the benefits of providing weather protection for the children in my care?

- Reduces risk of sunburn and skin cancer.
- Encourages active outdoor play, despite fierce summer heat, cold winter wind, or rain.
- Extends teaching, eating and playing areas at a fraction of the cost of building.

How long will it take to install my weather protection project?

Every project is different; however as a guideline for a straightforward shade sail we like to allow 10 weeks from signoff of design to installation. This allows for elements which are outside of our control such as council permits.

Help! What do I need in terms of permits or resource consent?

Don't panic - we can advise you about obtaining resource consents and permits. And as all of our products have been engineer-designed and certified as being durable and safe, sourcing a permit should be speedy and hassle-free.

Do shade sails and shelter structures require maintenance?

Yes, basic maintenance and care on a regular basis is necessary to ensure your installation maintains its original looks and shape. We are happy to provide a cleaning and maintenance service for you.

Can I take my shade sail down during winter?

We recommend you take your shade sail down where practical over the winter period, as strong winds and hail could damage it. Removing your shade sail over the summer holidays will also minimise the chance of vandalism. We offer a Service and Maintenance Contract that covers the removal and reinstallation of your shade to cover these periods. Our team ensures the correct tension is applied to the sail to prevent any damage, and will also inspect the shade for necessary repairs or maintenance.

What is the expected life span of my shade sail or shelter structure?

Assuming it is well-maintained and tensioned at all times, your sail or shelter should outlast the 10 year fabric warranty.

Is the colour of my shade sail important?

Yes - the sun has a different effect on each colour, therefore each colour will have a different UVR rating. For example, black provides higher UVR protection than white (which still provides an 89% UVR block). Different colours also provide varying depths of shade. Your 0800 Sunshade representative can advise on the best colours for your project.

Does my shade sail have to be a triangle shape?

Triangles are popular for aesthetic reasons, however they don't always provide the best sun protection. We can customize the shape and design to best suit your needs.

Can I attach a shade structure to my existing school building? How will it be attached?

We find the majority of the projects we undertake can be attached to buildings if desired. However this is dependant on local Council regulations and the location of reinforced or structural beams.

How deep do the shade sail poles need to go into the ground and what risk is there to existing underground services?

Typically 1.2 metres although, once again, the depth is dependant upon the nature of the project. Our team are highly skilled and experienced, and take the utmost care when installing a structure. It is recommended that a school provide as many details or plans related to the underground services at their property as possible. Reviewing this information at the start of the project will help prevent any issues further down the track.

How can I protect my students from harming themselves by running into the poles?

0800 Sunshade offer pole protectors for this purpose. We can build this into your quote so that you are not scrambling to find extra funding at the end of your project.

I know you provide shade sails, but what other weather protection products do you offer?

An alternative to the shade sail is a fixed umbrella, which looks stylish and provides great shade for smaller spaces. We also offer Aerospan®, a curved state of the art shade/rain protection structure that has been designed to cover a large area, using the minimum amount of posts.

For relief from rain and wind, our clear curtains give the children more space to play, eat and learn, whilst preserving the view and letting in natural light.

For temporary weather relief we have the Shade 'Marq'uee® - a large portable marquee that has the option of the canopy only, or canopy and side curtains for complete cover from any weather. Or our smaller portable shade - Cool Shadz® - perfect for sports and field days and camping trips.

Visit www.sunshade.co.nz to see these products in action or to question us further about the perfect weather protection solution for your environment.