



SUN PROTECTION POLICY

CONTEXT

Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world, with skin cancer accounting for 80% of all new cancers diagnosed each year. At least 1 in every 2 Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer in their life time.

Due to the nature of changing weather patterns and because play and sport are an important part of the school environment, appropriate protection from the damage of UV rays is required.

PRINCIPLES

1. That students will wear protective clothing to shield them from the damaging effects of UV radiation.
2. That adequate supplies of sun cream will be accessible to students.
3. That effective measures will be taken to ensure that students are educated about healthy lifestyles and measures necessary to protect themselves from the damaging effects of UV radiation.

PROCEDURES

SUNSCREEN:

1. All students will have available from the Health Care Centre and Physical Education Department SPF 30+ broad-spectrum sunscreen for maximum protection. Students will be encouraged to apply sunscreen 15 – 20 minutes prior to outside activities and reapplied regularly (around every two hours) if outdoors for an extended period of time. .
2. All parents and caregivers will be encouraged to supply the approved sunscreen for their children to carry for their own personal use.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION / SPORTS UNIFORM

All students will wear protective clothing where possible to limit the impact of UV damage.

SUNGLASSES:

Students will be encouraged to wear the appropriate sunglasses during outside activities e.g. excursion, play, recess, lunchtime activities, physical education lessons etc.

STAFF MODELLING

1. Staff will encourage sun smart behaviours when on duty and when involved in any outdoor activities.
2. The same will be expected of parents, visiting teachers etc.
3. Any outdoor activities are scheduled as much as possible to avoid being in the direct sun; this includes;
 - School assemblies, which are held in the courtyard or under shaded areas
 - Consumption of recess and lunch is encouraged in the shaded regions of the school, particularly during summer.
4. Students, Staff, Parents and any member of the school community are encouraged to use shaded areas as much as possible during the day. All members of the school community are encouraged to be role models for Sun Smart behaviour.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. All members of the school community will be kept up to date with information and resources through The Anti-Cancer Foundation "Cancer Prevention".

EVALUATION

The Sacred Heart College Senior Skin Protection Policy will be reviewed every 3 years to ensure that it is appropriate and relevant.

Policy issues will be discussed by staff, parent, student and leadership meetings.

NB This policy is aligned with the OHS&W policy on Sun Protection

Approved on /MARCH/2009

Review Date /MARCH/2012