Aims

The aims of the Sun Safe policy are to promote among students, staff and parents:

- Positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- Lifestyle practices that can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and the number of related deaths.
- Personal responsibility for and decision – making about skin protection.
- Awareness of the need for environmental changes in schools to reduce the level of exposure to the sun.

Implementation strategies for skin protection

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that all students attending our school are protected, throughout the year, from skin damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun.

1. As part of general skin protection strategies:
   - Students will wear hats that protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside eg. lunch and recess, sport, sports carnivals, outdoor excursions and activities.
   - A “No Hat – No Play” strategy will be enforced in Spring, Summer & Autumn.
   - Students will be encouraged to use available areas of shade for outdoor play activities.
   - Outdoor activities will be held in areas of shade whenever possible.
   - Teachers will schedule outdoor activities before 11.00 am whenever possible.
   - Staff will be encouraged to act as role models by practicing Sun Safe behaviour; wearing protective hats and appropriate clothing for all outdoor activities, using a SPF 15+, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for skin protection and seeking shade whenever possible.

2. Our school will:
   - Ensure that school hats are appropriate and satisfy Cancer Council guidelines.
   - Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events.
   - Encourage uniforms that are protective, with collars and longer sleeves.
   - Provide more shelters and shade trees.
   - Encourage and support the use of SPF 15+, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for staff and students.
   - Limit exposure times through timetable changes, when possible.
   - Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention in its curriculum.
   - Reinforce regularly the Sun Safe Policy in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.

3. When enrolling a child, parents will be:
   - Informed of the Sun Safe Policy.
   - Requested to purchase a school hat or provide an appropriate hat for their child’s use.
   - Encouraged to act as positive role models and practice skin protective behaviour themselves, particularly when attending school functions.