SUN SMART POLICY

RATIONALE
Exposure to the sun presents a serious health risk. Students must therefore be educated as to the need for suitable sun protection, and protected from exposure to the sun during school hours. This policy is to be implemented during terms one and four when UV radiation is at its strongest.

AIMS
- To educate students as to suitable Sun Smart protection strategies.
- To encourage children and teachers to protect themselves from the harmful effects of the sun.
- To provide parent education in Sun Smart protection strategies.

IMPLEMENTATION
- Sun protective clothing is included as part of the St. John’s school uniform.
- Children are required to wear Cancer Council approved close-weave broad brimmed hats (at least 8cm rigid brim) during Terms 1 and 4 whenever they are outside.
- Staff act as role models by also wearing hats when outside.
- Children without school approved hats are restricted to play in designated shaded areas.
- Children are actively encouraged to wear a broad-spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30+). Sunscreen is applied by students according to the manufacturer’s directions, before recess, lunch breaks and outdoor activities. Sunscreen will be made available by the school for all students when they are on an excursion/sporting activity or school camp.
- Whenever possible, outside activities in terms one and four, should be scheduled before 11:00 am.
- A Hot Weather Program applies when the temperature reaches 34 degrees.
- The school has provided some shade structures for students and encourages children to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.
- The Parents and Friends Association ensure that school uniform hats are available for purchase from the uniform shop.
- The school newsletter and school assemblies will be used to highlight and reinforce the Sun Smart policy.
- Sun Smart activities and sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.
- The Sun Smart policy is reflected in the planning of all outdoor events. E.g. camps and excursions.
- Our school will seek accreditation as a Sun Smart School at the Cancer Council Victoria during 2011/12.
EVALUATION

- This policy will be reviewed in accordance with the School Improvement Plan and policy timeline.