ST AGNES’ CATHOLIC PRIMARY SCHOOL
HIGHETT
SUN SMART POLICY

RATIONALE:

At St Agnes’ our Sun Smart Policy has been developed in the best interests of the health and well being of students, staff and parents attending this school. It is important and of benefit to promote Sun Smart practices.

AIMS:

The aims of our Sun Smart policy are to:
- Increase student and community awareness of skin cancer
- Adopt practical sun protection measures
- Develop strategies which encourage responsible decision making about sun protection
- Work towards a safe school environment which provides shade for students, staff and parents
- Encourage students, parents, and staff to wear protective clothing, hats and sunscreen at high risk times such as lunch times, sports, excursions and camps
- Ensure all students and staff have some UV exposure for vitamin D.
- Ensure all students and staff are well protected from too much UV exposure by using a combination of sun protection measures whenever UV levels reach 3 and above.
- Inform parents during student enrolment of our school Sun Smart policy.

CONTENT:

The content of the policy addresses the following key elements in its implementation - curriculum, behaviour, environment and evaluation. The Health and Physical Education of AusVELS and material provided by the Anti - Cancer Council will be used.
Legislation and Standards

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
Education and Training Reform Act 2006: Sch.5 Reg. 1 (1.2)

IMPLEMENTATION:

- From September 1st to May 1st - all days are Sun Smart days.
- All children must wear the approved St Agnes’ Sun Smart hat (broad brim or legionnaire hat). The broad brim hat is available at the school uniform shop. The children are expected to wear hats for all outdoor activity - recess, lunch, P.E/Sport lessons and excursions.
- Those students not wearing a hat will be asked to sit in shady areas for their own protection.
- Staff on yard duty or conducting outdoor lessons during this period are also expected to wear broad brimmed hats and suitable protective clothing.
- The students are encouraged to drink water during the warmer weather and use shade areas for outdoor activities.
- Students are encouraged to apply broad spectrum SPF15+/30+ sunscreen before coming to school and to reapply prior to recess and lunch times.
- The school will provide in each classroom a sun protection 30+ pump pack which the children are encouraged to apply. If children are allergic to this sunscreen it is the parent’s responsibility to inform the school in writing and supply their child with an alternative.
- Parents are requested to provide a labelled roll on sun screen for their child. This must be kept in the child’s school bag.
- Sun Smart Education will be documented and taught as part of our Health and Physical Education Inquiry Units and as ‘stand alone’ lessons in the first two weeks of the school year.
- Staff and parents will be encouraged to act as role models by also practising Sun Smart behaviours.
- Staff and students are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times at sunsmart.com.au or on the free SunSmart app to assist with the implementation of this policy.
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A combination of sun protection measures are used for all outdoor activities from **September to the end of April** and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above.

The school community will work towards maintaining and increasing shade areas to provide shelter in the school grounds.

Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g. reminder notices)

On days when the temperature is deemed to be of an ‘extreme’ nature, students will be asked to stay indoors.

Children are permitted to wear children’s sunglasses in the school yard.

**EVALUATION:**

This policy will be reviewed as necessary or as part of the 3 year review cycle.

Feedback from teachers, students and parents about the effectiveness of Sunsmart practices are welcomed.