



## **Holy Name Primary School Sunsmart Policy**

### **Rationale:**

Over exposure to the sun presents a serious health risk. Students must therefore be educated as to the need for suitable protection from sunburn, skin and eye damage that could be caused by the harmful U.V. rays of the sun whilst at school or related outdoor activities.

### **Purpose:**

To ensure that all students and staff are protected from over-exposure to UV radiation  
To ensure that students are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills to help them be responsible for their own sun protection

### **Implementation:**

- This policy is implemented from mid August to the end of April. Particular care is taken between 10am – 2pm (11am – 3pm daylight saving time) when UV levels are most intense.
- Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform and sports uniform policy. School clothing is made of close weave fabric and includes shirts with collars and longer sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts. For outdoor swimming, the wearing of a rash vest or t-shirt is stipulated.
- Staff who are on yard duty or conducting activities outside are required to wear a wide brimmed hat and sunglasses at all times and are to be mindful of the type of clothing they are wearing. Clothing should be loose fitting and protective from over exposure to the sun.
- Children will be required to only wear the school legionnaire hat or broad brimmed hat that protects the face neck and ears and also sunglasses whenever they are outside. i.e. sport, excursions, recess.
- The school approved legionnaire style hat may be purchased from the school office.
- Holy Name School will provide each child and with their first pair of sunglasses, fitting newly enrolled children each year to ensure 100% compliance. The sunglasses will meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.
- Children without hats will be restricted to stay in designated shaded areas i.e. First Aid Area.
- Children will be actively encouraged to wear sunscreen (SPF30+ broad spectrum) prior to exposure to the sun. Staff remind children to apply sunscreen (approx. 20 min) before going outdoors.
- Parents are encouraged to apply sunscreen to their child before school.
- Whenever possible, outside activities from mid August to the end of April should be scheduled before 11:00 am.
- The school will continue to provide adequate shade structures for students as practicable; particularly over high density play areas such as play equipment and quiet games area.
- Within the school community awareness will be raised about the dangers and long-term effects of over-exposure to the sun via the school newsletter.
- Sunsmart activities and sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels.
- Our school is a member of the Cancer Council Victoria's Sunsmart School Program.



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### **HOT DAY PROGRAMME**

In order to protect staff and students from sun damage, sunburn and heat, on days which are forecast 32 degrees celsius or over, the following programme will be implemented:- Children will remain in their air conditioned classrooms for the lunch break.

Lunch will be 11:00 a.m. –11:50 p.m. and afternoon break 2:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m.

### **Evaluation:**

This policy will be reviewed in consultation with all members of the wider Holy Name Primary School community as part of an ongoing review cycle. (October 2018)

References: Vic Government Schools  
The Cancer Council of Victoria ph: 9635 5148  
Vic Govt Reference Guide – HYPERLINK  
"http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/referenceguide/pdf/4-5.pdf"  
[www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/referenceguide/pdf/4-5.pdf](http://www.eduweb.vic.gov.au/referenceguide/pdf/4-5.pdf)