



# Sun Smart Guidelines

St Mary's Primary School acknowledges duty of care towards all students, and as part of this care will continue to encourage all students to learn about and accept responsibility for their protection against the sun and ultimately reduce their lifetime risk of skin cancer. The nationally recognised SunSmart Schools program supports schools in creating sun safe environments and promoting sun protection behaviours to students, staff and families. The school has developed sun protection guidelines comprising of the following elements:

## **EDUCATION**

The school will assist students, staff and members of the school community to gain an understanding of appropriate protective behaviours as advised by through its Health, Personal Development and Physical Education programs, the school newsletter, assemblies and in-service activities.

## **MODELLING**

Sun protection is encouraged through teacher and parent role modelling and classroom activities. School staff will model appropriate protective behaviour by using sunscreen and wearing hats at all outside events and when on playground supervision duty all year round. Parent helpers will also be encouraged to wear a hat and wear sunscreen when helping at the school.

## **SHADE**

The school will emphasise to students the importance of using shade when outside, particularly in high use areas such as where children eat lunch, canteen, popular play areas, and outdoor lesson areas. We ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor events. Shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings, grounds and playground equipment.

## **SCHOOL ORGANISATION**

Where possible, the school will endeavour to schedule outside school events to avoid the most dangerous part of the day. When outdoor activities are scheduled at times when the UV Index is 3 or higher, maximum use is made of shade, sunscreen and hats to protect students and staff.

## **SUNSCREEN**

Parents are requested to apply sunscreen each morning before school. SPF30 or higher broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen is available and accessible to staff and students in classrooms, and they will be actively encouraged to apply it before going outdoors e.g. before lunch, PE lessons, sports, excursions etc.

Sunscreen will be purchased by the school for use in classrooms from the stationery charge applied to school fees. Sunscreen will be stored in a cool place out of the sun, the expiry date of sunscreen monitored and discarded when out of date.

## **HATS**

Students are required to wear the school hat (bucket or legionnaires style) when outdoors. A 'no hat-no play in the sun' policy exists at St Mary's Primary School.

Hats must always be worn during when participating in and attending outdoor school activities such as Physical Education, sport, excursions and camps. Students who do not have a hat will not be excluded from play or physical activity, though activities may be restricted to shaded areas.

## **UNIFORM**

Students are expected to wear the correct school uniform which includes shirts with collars which will assist with sun protection during the year.