RATIONALE:

Our SunSmart policy aims to educate the school community to ensure that all students and staff attending this school take responsibility to protect themselves from skin damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun. It will be implemented throughout the year but with particular emphasis from September to April when all students are required to wear a hat outside.

IMPLEMENTATION:

As part of general SunSmart strategies, our school will:

Behaviour:
- Require children to wear hats which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside from September to April.
- Ensure sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform and sport uniform. School clothing is cool, loose fitting and made of densely woven fabric. It includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts, wide-brimmed and bucket hats.
- Encourage the daily application of sunscreen before school and prior to the lunch break by students.
- Students to only use roll-on/cream when re-applying sunscreen at school.
- Students are not to share their sunscreen with others.
- Encourage children to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.
- Encourage staff and parents to act as role models by practising SunSmart behaviours.
- Encourage students to wear the school uniform hat.

Curriculum:
- Incorporate SunSmart programs on skin care and skin cancer prevention into the curriculum at all year levels.
- Work with the parent community to educate them about the importance of applying and providing SPF 30+ (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for their children to use daily.
- Regularly reinforce SunSmart behaviour in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.
- Ensure the SunSmart policy is reflected in the planning of all outdoor events (e.g. camps, excursions, sporting events).

Environment:
- Schedule a hot day timetable when the temperature reaches 33 degrees. This will enable the students and staff to spend their breaks indoors.
- Organise outdoor activities to be held in areas with plenty of shade whenever possible.
- Work toward increasing the number of shelters and trees so as to provide adequate shade in school grounds.
- Whole School Assemblies will be held indoors on days with high temperatures.
- At the discretion of the Leadership Team a decision will be made regarding the appropriateness of having an assembly if the temperature is too hot.

EVALUATION:

This policy will be reviewed with student, parent and community input as part of the school’s 3 year review cycle.