



St Joseph's Primary School Kangaroo Point

Sun Smart Policy

Approved: May 2009
For Review: May 2012

Rationale

Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Because the link between the sun and skin cancer has been clearly established, our school intends to promote a positive environment in support of Sun Smart behaviours. Of all new cancers diagnosed in Australia each year, 80% are skin cancers. Research indicates that childhood sun exposure is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer in later life. It suggests that at least two-thirds of all melanomas occurring in Australia could be prevented if children were protected from the sun during their first fifteen years. Given that students are at school during peak ultraviolet radiation times throughout the day and that most skin cancers are preventable, schools play a major role in both minimising students' exposure and providing an environment where policies and procedures can positively influence student behaviour.

Policy

St Joseph's Primary School will strive to create an appropriate environment and promote Sun Smart behaviours that protect all members of our community from the harmful effects of the sun whilst participating in school activities.

St Joseph's School Sun Smart Policy Aims to:

- Inform parents of the Sun Smart policy when they enrol their child
- Include the Sun Smart policy statement in the school prospectus
- Incorporate education programs that focus on skin cancer prevention into the school curriculum
- Encourage all staff to act as positive role models for students in all aspects of Sun Smart behaviour
- Seek ongoing support from parents and the school community for the Sun Smart policy and its implementation through newsletters, parent meetings etc
- Ensure that all students and staff wear hats that protect the face, neck and ears; and apply 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen
- Encourage students without adequate sun protection to use shaded or covered areas at recess and lunch times

- Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and other outdoor events
- Incorporate educational programs about sun safety into the school curriculum.
- Plan to maximize the use of shade in the school grounds
- Encourage children to wear hats to and from school where appropriate.

Parents/Carers will:

- Provide a School broad brimmed/legionnaires hat for their child and ensure that they wear it to and from school
- Ensure that their child applies 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen prior to leaving for school based and outdoor activities.
- Ensure that their child wears the correct School uniform to ensure maximum protection from the sun
- Act as a positive role model by practicing Sun Smart behaviour
- Support the School's Sun Smart policy and to be involved in updating the policy when asked to do so

Students will:

- Be aware of the School's Sun Smart policy
- Take responsibility for their own health and safety by being Sun Smart
- Comply with the Sun Smart rules and guidelines by wearing the School hat and uniform
- Follow "No Hat, No Play" rule for break times. Students without hats go to the shaded undercover area.
- Use shaded or covered areas when outdoors
- Act as positive role models for other students in all aspects of Sun Smart behaviour

Reflection

Queensland Cancer Fund: Schools Sun Smart Policy Guidelines.
Queensland.

Review & Monitoring

Will take place on an annual basis. Information will be included in the first school newsletter each year and well as Term 4.