SUN SMART POLICY
Sacred Heart Primary

Reviewed: 2026
Due for Review: 2029

Rationale
Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Research indicates that childhood sun exposure is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer. As students are at school during times when UV radiation levels are highest, schools play a major role in minimising student's UV exposure.

Our SunSmart policy has been adopted to ensure that all staff and children at Sacred Heart School are protected from skin damage caused by UV radiation from the sun. This policy is to be implemented throughout the year. The sun protection practices outlined in this policy will be applied to all school activities, including sports carnivals, excursions, and camps. The policy has been developed in consultation with the whole school community.

Our Commitment
Sacred Heart School will:

- Inform parents of this SunSmart policy when they enrol their children
- Promote sun protection via newsletters, assemblies and parent and staff meetings.
- Ensure there is adequate provision of shade within the school grounds.
- Include sun protection education in the school curriculum as part of the Health Programme.
- Encourage role modelling of SunSmart behaviour by staff, parents, and guests.
- Require that staff and students always wear hats whilst outside.
- Ensure that children not wearing a hat remain in the covered areas of the school.
- Encourage students and staff to use the shaded areas of the school as much as possible when outside.
- Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and other outdoor events.
- Encourage the use of SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen by:
    * Asking that parents apply it to children before they come to school.
    * Supplying sunscreen at outdoor events, sports carnivals and camps.

Our Expectations
Parents/carers will:

- Provide a school uniform SunSmart hat for your child/children and encourage them to wear it to and from school if walking or riding.
- Ensure that your child/children apply SPF 50+ broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before leaving for school.
- Send sunscreen to school with your child on sports carnival days and other outdoor event days.
- Act as positive role models by practicing SunSmart behaviour.
- Support the school's SunSmart policy and help design and regularly update the policy.

Student's will:

- Be aware of the school's SunSmart policy.
- Take responsibility for their health by being SunSmart.
- Comply with SunSmart rules and guidelines by wearing suitable school hats and clothing.
- Use shaded or covered areas outdoors as often as possible.
- Act as positive role models for other students in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour

- Participate in SunSmart education programmes.

Evaluation

The Principal and Assistant Principals will review the effectiveness of this policy.
They will:

1. Review the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents, and visitors and make recommendations for improvement.
2. Assess shade provision and usage and make recommendations for increase in shade provision if needed.
3. Update and promote curriculum material relevant to SunSmart activities.