



St Saviour's Primary School

Safe at School

Sun Smart Policy

(June 2014)

VISION STATEMENT

St Saviour's Primary School is an educational community living out Mercy values each day.

Our Vision is:-

- That each child is valued and respected.
- That each child's giftedness is recognised.
- That each child's potential is realised.
- That each member of the school community strives for goodness.

RATIONALE

A balance of ultraviolet radiation (UV) exposure is important for health, however, too much can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Research indicates childhood sun exposure is an important contributing factor in the development of skin cancer in later life. Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun. Most skin damage and skin cancer is therefore preventable.

Ultraviolet radiation levels are highest during the hours children are at school. As children will spend a portion of their day outdoors, we are committed to protecting them from the harmful effects of the sun. With this in mind, St Saviour's Primary School promotes Sun Smart behaviours, thereby reducing the risk of skin damage from over exposure to the sun.

VALUES

St Saviour's Primary School is a Catholic Primary School committed to the provision of a safe, healthy and caring environment. This Sun Smart Policy reflects the values espoused in the Mission of a Catholic School by promoting respect, responsibility, responsiveness and resourcefulness.

POLICY STATEMENT

St Saviour's Primary School advocates the need to protect children's skin and educate them about Sun Smart behaviours, thereby reducing the risk of skin damage from exposure to the sun. The school provides an environment that supports Sun Smart practices and actively creates an awareness of the importance of sun safety, during outdoor activities.

DESIRABLE CONSEQUENCES

This Sun Smart Policy has been developed to encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures, including sun protective clothing, hats, sunglasses, sunscreen** and shade.

Principal and Staff Responsibilities:

St Saviour's Primary School Staff are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures (e.g. sun protective clothing, hats, sunglasses, sunscreen and shade) when participating in and attending outdoor school activities. In supporting the Safe at School Sun Smart Policy, staff will act as positive role model for the students.

Staff must ensure students without adequate sun protection use shaded or covered areas at morning tea and lunch times. St Saviour's Primary School maintains a strict "no hat, no play" rule for all outdoor activities.

Staff are to encourage students to re-apply sunscreen, especially during periods of prolonged sun exposure (such as at a sports carnival, swimming excursion, when on camp). Sunscreen is provided in each classroom and at sporting events.

Parent Responsibilities:

Parents and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures (e.g. sun protective clothing, hats, sunglasses, sunscreen and shade) when participating in and attending outdoor school activities. In supporting the Safe at School Sun Smart Policy, parents will act as positive role model for the students.

Parents should provide their children with a school approved uniform including a hat and encourage them to wear it to and from school.

Student Responsibilities:

Students are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures including sun protective clothing, hats, sunglasses, sunscreen and shade when participating in and attending outdoor school activities.

DEFINITIONS:

Reference to 'Parents' in this Policy includes Guardians and Caregivers.
Sunscreen should be SPF 30+ or higher, broad-spectrum, water-resistant.

SUPPORT DOCUMENTS:

Queensland Cancer Council <http://www.cancerqld.org.au/>

REVIEW HISTORY:

Date	Event	Changes / Comments
01/2014	Rev00	Policy Revision
06/2014	Rev01	Minor formatting changes

TO BE REVIEWED: 2015