

## **SUNSMART POLICY STATEMENT**

The Parents Group of the Moonee Ponds West Primary School produced this Policy with the assistance of the Cancer Council of Victoria (CCV). This policy is to ensure that all children attending our school are protected from skin cancer damage by the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun. It is to be implemented throughout the year but with particular emphasis from the beginning of September until the end of April.

1. The School will require children to wear appropriate clothing from the beginning of September until the end of April each year –
  - *Broad-brim or legionnaires hats, which protect the face, neck and ears. are required to be worn whenever students are outside, (e.g. recess, lunch, sport, carnivals, excursions and activities).*
  - *Shirts with collars and longer sleeves and loose fitting, baggy shorts and skirts that offer a good protection against ultraviolet radiation are considered acceptable.*
  - *Singlet tops, backless tops and thin strappy tops are unacceptable*

2. Ensure that adequate shade is provided at sporting carnivals and outdoor activities and events.

*Alternatives to shade trees are umbrellas and tents.*

3. Increase the number of shelters and shade trees in the school grounds.
4. Encourage children to use available areas of shade for outdoor play activities.
5. Provide SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for staff and student use whenever possible and encourage its application.

*The CCV recommends the use SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen. Use zinc cream on nose, cheeks, lips, tips of ears. Take additional sunscreen for re-applying every 2-3 hours and after swimming.*

6. Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention into the curriculum.
7. Regularly reinforce the Sun smart Policy in a positive way.  
*Through newsletters, excursion notices, parent meetings, student and teacher activities, school information book and at the infant orientation.*
8. Direct children who do not have hats with them or who are wearing what is deemed to be unacceptable clothing to play in an area protected from the sun
9. Whenever possible, taking into consideration timetable restraints, schedule outdoor activities before 10.00 am and after 2.00 pm (11.00 am - 3.00 pm Summer time.)
10. Encourage all staff to act as role models by practising Sunsmart behaviour:-

*Wearing appropriate hats and clothing for outdoors.  
Using sunscreen and seeking shade whenever possible.*

**Endorsed as amended by School Council 18/08/2007.**