First Presented:  August 2002
Completed:
Supersedes (if applicable):   April 1999

POLICY AREA  SUN SAFETY

PREAMBLE  The purpose of this Sun Safety policy is to educate our school community to protect themselves from the harmful effects of the sun.

RATIONALE  Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun. Most skin damage and skin cancer is preventable. Ultraviolet radiation (UVR) levels are highest during the hours that children are at school. With this in mind Sacred Heart School Community realises the need for appropriate protection and education about Sun Safe behaviour.

VALUES  Self Respect, Responsibility, Care, Learning

POLICY  At Sacred Heart School we recognize the need for and will attempt to:
• Provide ongoing education that promotes personal responsibility for skin cancer prevention and early detection
• Provide environments that support Sun Smart practices
• Create an awareness of the need to schedule work commitments and outdoor activities to support Sun Smart practices.
CONSEQUENCES
1. Provide effective educational information for staff, students, parents and volunteers.
2. Maximise the use of shade for outdoor activities.
3. Provide flexible planning of activities to reduce, as far as practicable, time spent in the sun between 10 am and 2 pm.
4. Encourage tree planting and caring programs for provision of shade.
5. Consider sun protection when reviewing the school uniform design.
6. Require the wearing of protective clothing including appropriate hats when in the sun.
7. The wearing of a specific type and brand of sunglasses is an optional part of the school uniform— the purchase of same to be done through the school.
8. Encourage the use of SPF30+ broad-spectrum sunscreen on uncovered areas of skin.
9. Encourage all staff to act as positive role models for children in all aspects of Sun Smart behaviour.
10. Inform all members of the school community of the Sun Safety policy and its consequences.

REFLECTION
Workplace Health and Safety Act, 1995
Sun Smart Policy Guidelines for Schools, Queensland Cancer Fund
Department of Education Queensland Sun Safety Policy and Procedures.
Sun Safety at Work, Queensland Cancer Fund