Ruskin Park Primary School
Sunsmart Policy - Students

Rationale
Over exposure to the sun presents a serious health risk. Students must be aware of the dangers of UV radiation and develop an understanding of the need for suitable sun protection.

Guidelines
- To provide a healthy environment that promotes Sunsmart practices for students, staff and parents helpers.
- To educate students as to suitable Sunsmart protection strategies.
- To encourage children to protect themselves from the harmful effects of the sun.

Implementation
- This Policy is to be read in conjunction with Uniform Policy.
- Students will be required to wear school uniform broad brimmed hat whenever they are outside from September until the end of April.
- Students without appropriate hats will be restricted to sit quietly in the shaded areas of the courtyard.
- Students will be actively encouraged to wear a broad spectrum water resistant sunscreen (SPF30+). Sunscreen will be provided in each classroom and on excursions. Sunscreen will be applied by students according to the manufacturer’s directions, under the supervision of teachers. A small number of students may have allergic reactions to the chemicals in sunscreen. Such allergies should be identified by parents when they provide the school with medical advice about their children. Any adverse reaction from sunscreen should be reported to parents.
- Students will be encouraged to wear sunglasses. Sunglasses worn by students must comply with Australian Standard AS 167, have plastic lenses & frames.
- Staff and parent helpers will be encouraged to wear a broad brim hat and sunglasses when outside from September through to April
- Planned outdoor activities will be modified on extreme risk days
- Whenever possible, outside activities on hot days will be scheduled before 11.00 am.
- The School Council will provide adequate shade structures for students as practicable, particularly over high density play areas such as play equipment.
- The school newsletter and school assemblies will be used to highlight and reinforce the Sunsmart Policy.
- Sunsmart activities and sun protection will form part of the Health and Physical Education curriculum at all year levels and outdoor sporting events.

Review Date: May 2015
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- Our school will continue to be affiliated with the Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria.

Evaluation

- This Policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three year review cycle.
- Evaluation will be ongoing and involve monitoring hat use and the availability of shady areas in the playground.

This Policy was ratified by School Council on 14 May 2012

Review Date: May 2015