ALBANY RISE PRIMARY SCHOOL
Sun Smart School Policy

RATIFIED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: 29th July 2015  REVIEW DATE: 2018

BACKGROUND:
Skin cancer is a significant health problem in Australia. We can now estimate that two out of three Australians will develop at least one skin cancer in their lives. Whilst skin cancer most often occurs in adults, research is increasingly establishing a link between our childhood exposure and our risk of developing skin cancer. Our behaviour during the first fifteen years of life in Australia is critical.

PURPOSE:
1.1 To protect all students and staff attending this school from skin damage caused by the harmful ultra-violet rays of the sun.
1.2 To teach students about their skin and ways to protect it, encouraging them to develop good habits for the future and acting to protect them now.
1.3 To put a barrier between the sun’s rays and student skin. Ideally this should be a natural barrier such as shade from a tree or umbrella, a hat or clothing.
1.4 To ensure students and staff maintain a healthy balance of UV exposure from the sun
1.5 To work towards a safe school environment that provides shade for students, staff and the school community when required
1.6 To assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection
1.7 To ensure that families and new staff are informed of the programs
1.8 To encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures as appropriate and per SunSmart guidelines.

GUIDELINES:
2.1 Behaviour
During terms 1 and 4, Albany Rise Primary School will:
• require children to wear an Albany Rise Primary School broad-brimmed, bucket or legionnaire hat which protects the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside (eg. recess, lunch, sport, excursions).
• work with the parent community to provide minimum SPF 15+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for staff and student use whenever possible.
• encourage the application of sunscreen before school and prior to the lunch break.
• encourage children to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.
• require staff and encourage parents to act as role models by practising good SunSmart behaviours.

2.2 Curriculum
Albany Rise Primary School will:
• Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention into the curriculum.
• Reinforce SunSmart behaviour in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.
• Ensure the Sunsmart Policy is reflected in the planning of all outdoor events (eg., camps, excursions, sporting events).

2.3 Environment
Albany Rise Primary School will:
• Schedule outdoor activities before 11.00 am and after 3.00 pm during terms 1 and 4 whenever possible.
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- Conduct outdoor activities in areas of shade whenever possible.
- Work towards increasing the number of shelters and trees to provide adequate shade around the oval and other areas of the school ground.
- Conduct assemblies indoors.
- Develop and implement a UV communication strategy for the whole school community that includes:
  - newsletters
  - the school's homepage
  - staff meetings, parent meetings, school assemblies
  - curriculum activities and school events
  - information at enrolment.
  - tiqbiz

2.4 Evaluation

Albany Rise Primary School will:

- Review the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents and visitors and make recommendations for improvement and policy revision.
- Assess shade provision and usage and make recommendations for increases in shade provision.
- Update and promote curriculum material relevant to SunSmart activities

References:

Principal: ____________________________

School Council President: ____________________________

Date ratified by School Council: 29th July 2015 __________

To be reviewed: __________ 2018 __________