



# St Mary's Catholic Primary School Rockhampton Sun Safety Policy

Approved: September, 2019

## Policy Statement

St Mary's Catholic Primary School adopts sun safety procedures to ensure that all students are educated about safe practices and responsible habits about sun protection.

## Description

St Mary's School Community will promote a safe, healthy working and learning environment through the development and implementation of appropriate sun safety strategies. Every reasonable effort will be made to protect students from the harmful effects of the sun while attending school activities.

# Implementation Issues

Sun safe behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and on school enrolment.

All students and staff use a combination of sun protection measures whenever outdoor activities are undertaken. Our sun safety policy is considered when planning all outdoor events:

## Shade

- The school makes sure there is a sufficient number of shelters and trees providing shade in the school grounds, particularly in areas where students congregate.
- Shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all outdoor activities.
- Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.
- Students who do not have appropriate hats or outdoor clothing are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

## Clothing

- Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform. It is made of close weave fabric.

## Hats

- Students are required to wear their school hat so as to protect their face, neck and ears whenever they are outside.

## **Sunscreen**

- SPF 30+ broad spectrum sunscreen is available for staff and students' use.
- Students and staff are encouraged to apply sunscreen in a timely manner before engaging in outdoor activities or play.

## **Role models - staff act as role models by:**

- Wearing sun safe hats, clothing and sunglasses when outside.
- Wearing 30+ broad spectrum sunscreen.
- Seeking shade whenever possible.
- Families and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures when participating and attending outdoor school activities.

## **Curriculum**

- Programs on skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum for all grade levels.
- Where possible, Physical Education lessons are held in the shade.
- Lunch time breaks are timetabled to avoid the midday sun.

# Reflection Material

Occupational Health & Safety Act 2004

Sections 21 & 23: Main Duties of Employers

Section 25: Duties of Employees

[www.health.qld.gov.au/sunsafety/schools/default.asp](http://www.health.qld.gov.au/sunsafety/schools/default.asp)

Queensland Government Sun Safety for primary schools