SUNSMART POLICY

**Purpose:**

1.1 To ensure that all students attending Mentone Park Primary School are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultra-violet rays of the sun.

1.2 To increase student and community awareness of skin cancer risks.

**Broad Guidelines:**

As part of general skin protection strategies:

2.1 It is compulsory for students to wear Mentone Park Primary School approved hats for protection whenever they are outside, (e.g. recess, lunch, sport, carnivals, excursions and activities) during Terms 1 and 4, including daylight savings times encouraged at other times where appropriate.

2.2 Students will only be allowed to participate in the Year 5 and 6 Beach Program if they are wearing the appropriate SunSmart attire (including t-shirt or rash vest). The use of sun block is to be encouraged for this activity.

2.3 Increase the number of shelters and trees that provide shade in the school grounds over time.

2.4 Encourage the use of broad spectrum, non-toxic water resistant sunscreen for staff and students.

2.5 Incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention into the curriculum.

2.6 Encourage parents to apply an 8 hour non-toxic sun block to their child/ren prior to them leaving for school.

**Implementation**

3.1 Reinforce the SunSmart Policy in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities.

3.2 Encourage students to use available areas of shade for outdoor play activities.

3.3 Students who are not wearing hats will be directed to play in the eating area which is protected from the sun.

3.4 Schedule outdoor activities before 10.00 a.m. and after 2.00 p.m. (11.00 a.m. and 3.00 p.m. in summer) whenever possible.

3.5 Encourage staff and parents to act as role models by practising SunSmart behaviours.

When enrolling their children, parents will be:

3.6 Informed of the SunSmart Policy.

**Evaluation**

4.1 Adequate shade provision will be assessed and provided by Buildings and Grounds Committee of School Council.

4.2 Students are wearing hats at the appropriate time.

Reviewed and approved by School Council August 2009