Rationale:
Too much exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun causes sunburn, skin damage and increases the risk of skin cancer. Sun exposure in the first 15 years of life contributes significantly to the lifetime risk of skin cancer. Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world.

Aims:
This policy is followed during Term 1 and Term 4 when UV radiation is most intense in Victoria. The goals of the SunSmart Policy are to:
- Minimise sun damage.
- Increase student and community awareness about skin cancer and sun protection.
- Encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures.
- Work towards a safe school environment that provides shade for students, staff and the school community.
- Assist students to be responsible for their own sun protection.
- Ensure that families and new staff are informed of the school’s SunSmart policy.

Implementation:
All students and staff use a combination of sun protection measures throughout the day to ensure they are well protected. Particular care is taken between 10am and 2pm (11am and 3pm daylight saving time) when UV level reach their peak.

Our Sunsmart policy is considered when planning all outdoor events e.g. assemblies, camps, excursions and sporting events. Where possible, outdoor activities or events are scheduled earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon, or we try using indoor venues.

Shade
- The school council makes sure there is a sufficient number of shelters, shade sails and trees providing shade in the school grounds particularly in areas where students congregate e.g. outdoor lesson areas and popular play areas
- 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.

Clothing
- Sun protective clothing is included in our school uniform and dress code. School clothing is made of close weave fabric and includes shirts with collars and longer sleeves. Rash vests or t-shirts to be worn for outdoor swimming.
- Refer to Uniform Policy.

Hats
- Students are required to wear school SunSmart hats that protect their face, neck and ears whenever they are outside in Term 1 and Term 4.
- Baseball caps are not acceptable head wear at Huntly Primary School.
- Refer to Uniform Policy.
Sunglasses

- Students and staff are encouraged to wear close fitting, wrap around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2,3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye as possible.

Sunscreen

- On excursions, SPF30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is available for staff and student’s use. Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if outside for long periods. Students with allergies to sunscreen will need to supply their own substitute.

Role Modelling

- Staff act as role models by:
  - Wearing sun protective hats, clothing and sunglasses when outside
  - Applying SPF 30+ board spectrum, water resistant sunscreen
  - Seeking shade whenever possible
  - Families and visitors are asked to abide to our Sunsmart policy and use a combination of sun protection measures (sun protective clothing and hats, sunglasses and sunscreen) when participating in and attending outdoor school activities.

Curriculum

- Programs on skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum for all grade levels.
- SunSmart 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 student enrolment.

Monitoring

- Staff briefed at the beginning of the school year and before the commencement of Term 4.
- New staff briefed on this policy
- Sunsmart policy included in school handbook.
- SunSmart practices promoted regularly through term 1 and 4.
- Anti-cancer Council of Victoria contact annually to ensure that up-to-date information is maintained on Sunsmart resources and policy guidelines.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed every twelve months.

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This policy was last ratified by Huntly Primary School Council in...

Principal’s Signature

Date 23/4/2012.

School Council President

Date 23/4/2012