AUGUSTA PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL
SUN PROTECTION POLICY

During week 1, term 1, students and staff will familiarise themselves with the Sun Protection Policy and children without hats will be given a reminder about wearing a hat when outside. As from week 2, term 1 we will support the NO HAT - NO PLAY policy. To help us promote our Sun Protection Policy all new students who enrol at Augusta Park Primary are issued with a free hat.

In accordance with Section 3.88 Sun Protection in the DECS (DETE) Administrative Instructions and Guidelines, we at Augusta Park Primary support a 'no hat - no play' sun protection policy.

ULTRA-VIOLET RADIATION AND SKIN PROTECTION
Rationale
- Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world
- Two out of three Australians develop skin cancer
- 4000 new cases and 1000 deaths are recorded each year
- UVR cannot be seen or felt, UVR levels are not related to temperature
- Skin damage can occur even on cloudy days
- The eyes can also be damaged from long term exposure to UVR

Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun's Ultra-Violet Radiation (UVR). Sun protection is therefore a year round issue.

Research has shown that much of the damage which results in skin cancer occurs during childhood and adolescence. The incidence of skin damage and skin cancer can be reduced. The implementation of a sun protection policy is therefore essential.

AIMS
The aims of the Augusta Park Primary Sun Protection Policy are to promote:
- Positive attitudes towards skin protection
- Lifestyle practices which can help reduce the incidence of skin damage
- Personal responsibility for, and decision making about, skin protection
- An awareness of the importance of environmental conditions on our school with the aim of reducing the level of exposure to the sun

DETE Guidelines - Section 3.88
- Develop and monitor classroom programs which complement health and physical education curriculum in this area.
- Schedule outdoor activities before 10 am or after 2 pm (11 am and 3 pm daylight saving time) where possible.
- Support the wearing of hats which shade the face, back of neck and ears when in the sun. Broad at (least 6 cm), stiffened brim hats made of close weave material which 'breathes' and with a dark coloured brim are ideal. A neck flap gives further protection. Legionnaire - style caps may provide the required protection.
- Support 'cover up clothing' for all school activities.

IMPLEMENTATION PROCEDURES
Positive attitude towards skin protection
- To increase the students' knowledge of the causes, prevention and detection of skin cancer to encourage a responsible and positive attitude to skin protection as part of the curriculum
- To ensure that these areas are covered in the appropriate subjects, eg: Health and Personal Development
- Reinforce the Sun Protection Policy in a positive way through posters, the newsletter, SRC, SAPSASA sports, and planning of other outdoor activities
- Information sessions for parents/caregivers, staff and students to be offered that involve speakers and other resources from relevant health groups
Lifestyle practices which can help reduce the incidence of skin damage

HATS
• All students and staff are expected to wear either a broad brimmed, bucket hat with a brim of at least 6cm, or Legionnaire style hat whenever outside on every school day throughout the year
• A 'no hat no play' policy operates in the school, students will not be allowed to play outside without a hat
• All students and staff will wear a hat when playing outdoor sport (PE & SAPSASA)
• In support of the above, students have the option of wearing sunglasses for outdoor school activities.

Personal responsibility for, and decision making about, skin protection
• personal responsibility for, and decision making about skin protection will be supported as the students' knowledge and understanding of sun protection increases through curriculum studies and also through constant practicing of lifestyles that help reduce the incidence of skin damage.

An awareness of the importance of environmental conditions on our school with the aim of reducing the level of exposure to the sun
• Scheduling of outdoor activities
• Teachers to timetable use of indoor facilities when appropriate
• When timetabling outdoor activities consideration is given to appropriate UV protection safeguards
• Times of day recognised as periods of maximum radiation intensity
• Use of hats for outdoor activities - appropriate use of shaded areas
• Encourage the use of UV30+ Sunscreen which is provided to each classroom when going outside whether for sport or for play during recess and lunch breaks.

HOT WEATHER ROUTINE
If the advertised temperature is 36°C outdoor activities and team sports will be cancelled. During recess and lunch play times and designated areas for play will be modified to suit the conditions

STAFF
The Augusta Park Primary Sun Protection Policy will be successful and effective with staff (and parents/caregivers) actively promoting and modelling sun safe practices. Staff are expected to keep themselves sun safe - lead by example and wear a hat and protect their skin by promoting the use of a provided 30+ sunscreen when venturing outside!