SUNSMART POLICY

COLLEGE VISION
Salesian College is an inclusive and welcoming Catholic Faith Community in the spirit of St John Bosco. Here at ‘Rupertswood’ we take pride in our unique heritage and environment. We value engagement and excellence in learning for a life committed to making a difference in our world.

- We are a welcoming COMMUNITY that fosters an atmosphere of joy and optimism.
- We strive for engagement in LEARNING for which we are collectively responsible.
- We promote the pursuit of EXCELLENCE in all aspects of life.
- We are inspired by our FAITH to serve others and develop as resilient, thoughtful and caring citizens of the world.

“A Faith Community committed to Excellence in Learning”

PREAMBLE
Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. It is estimated that more than 75% of all skin cancers could be prevented by practising sun protection in early childhood and adolescence.

This SunSmart Policy has been developed to ensure that all students and staff attending Salesian College are protected from over-exposure to the harmful UV radiation from the sun. It documents our comprehensive sun protection practices. These practices will be applied to all school activities including sports carnivals, excursions and camps. The policy is to be implemented throughout the year, but with a particular emphasis from September to April inclusive.

POLICY AIMS
The College SunSmart Policy has been developed to:

- Providing a curriculum that raises awareness of sun safety and the associated risks
- Ensuring the College uniform and staff dress code is sun smart
- Providing the resources for students and staff to safely practice sun smart behaviour
- Providing an safe environment for the students and staff of the College in relation to sun safety

GUIDING PRINCIPLES
The principles which guide the College with regards to being SunSmart are:

- Those recommended by the Cancer Council Australia through their SunSmart Schools Program
- The uniform recommendations suggested by the Cancer Council Australia
- Providing a safe environment for students as identified in the CEOM Policy 2.26 Pastoral Care of Students in Catholic Schools
- Those in the Charter for Salesian Schools in Australia which highlight the need for a safe environment
- our commitment to the ongoing promotion of health and wellbeing in relation to sun protection and skin care

Ratified on 15 March 2012  To be Reviewed in March 2013  Next Approval March 2015
POLICY DETAILS

Curriculum
- Sun protection and skin cancer awareness programs are incorporated into the appropriate Key Learning Areas of the school curriculum.

Uniforms/clothing
- Students are actively encouraged to wear the College caps, which are a compulsory item for all new students, whenever they are outside and particularly for organised outdoor activities such as sports carnivals.
- Staff are encouraged to wear broad-brimmed hats for all outdoor activities, including yard assistance.
- Parents are encouraged to wear broad-brimmed hats when participating in and attending outdoor school activities.

Sunscreen and Sunglasses Use
- Students and staff are actively encouraged to apply SPF 30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen regularly eg. prior to school, before lunch, PE lessons, sport, excursions etc.
- Sunglasses are encouraged for staff, students and parents to wear when outside.

Sport and Physical Education
- The wearing of the College Cap is compulsory during Terms 1 and 4 when involved in outdoor sport and physical education activities.
- Sports uniform items are sun protective eg. shirts with collars.
- The use of indoor and shade facilities will be maximised.

Camps and Excursions
- Hats, sun protective clothing, sunglasses and sunscreen are required for all camps and excursions. These items will be listed on the parent permission form.

Shade
- The school continues to increase and/or maintain shade in its grounds, particularly in areas where students congregate eg. lunch, canteen, outdoor lesson areas.
- Students and staff are actively encouraged to use shade.

Occupational Health & Safety
Consideration is given to sun protection for all teachers/staff involved in outdoor activities, including yard assistance. Physical education and sport education teachers are required to take appropriate sun protection measures as they are particularly at risk from UV radiation. Broad-brimmed hats are provided for staff use when outside.

Assemblies
- Outdoor assemblies are either scheduled out of peak UV radiation times or held in an area where all students can be in the shade.

Reinforcement/Promotion of SunSmart Message.
- Students will be actively involved in initiatives to protect the school community from over-exposure to the sun.
- Sun protection will be promoted throughout the year via the school newsletter, assemblies, daily messages, parent and staff meetings and whole school activities.

MONITORING
This policy will be monitored by the College who will ensure:
1. All new staff are briefed on the SunSmart Policy
2. The SunSmart Policy is included in the school staff handbook and student diary each year.
3. Sunscreen is included on the school booklist.
4. SunSmart practices are promoted regularly from the beginning of September through to the end of April.