PURPOSE

This policy has been adopted to enable our school to work with our parent and student community to ensure that all students attending Apollo Parkways Primary School are protected as much as possible from skin and eye damage caused by the harmful ultra-violet rays of the sun. It is to be implemented throughout the year with particular emphasis in Terms 1 and 4 and when UV Index levels rise above 3.0 between September and April.

GUIDELINES

As part of general skin protection strategies the school will:

- ensure that hats worn are appropriate, according to school requirements, and satisfy Cancer Council of Victoria guidelines
- insist that students wear hats which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside (e.g. recess, lunch, sport, carnivals, excursions and activities) during terms one and four and on days where UV levels exceed 3.0 in between September and April.
- encourage the use of close fitting wrap around sunglasses that meet the Australian standard 1067
- include sun protective clothing in the school uniform
- require staff to supervise Sunsmart behaviour during yard duty and other times
- direct students who do not have their hats with them to be in an area protected from the sun
- conduct shade audits regularly and provide shelters and trees that in the school grounds
- encourage children to use available areas of shade for outdoor play activities, wherever possible
- organise outdoor activities to be held in areas of shade, whenever possible
- encourage parents to send SPF 30+ sunscreen to school for their child's use
- use the UV alert at sunsmart.com.au to find out daily sun protection times and inform staff and students to assist with implementation of this policy
- put strategies in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors for extended periods (with parent consent this is not a requirement for students with very dark skin)
- timetable interschool sporting to comply with the district Sunsmart policy
- incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention into the curriculum
- regularly reinforce the Sunsmart Policy in a positive way through newsletters, parent meetings, student and teacher activities and the school website
- encourage staff to act as role models by practising Sunsmart behaviour
- ensure that our community is aware that we will enforce this Sunsmart Policy within the limitations of government legislation

When enrolling their children, parents will be:

- informed of the Sunsmart Policy
- required to purchase a school hat (legionnaire hat, or broad brimmed hat) for their child's use
- encouraged to provide a suitable (SPF30+ broad spectrum, water resistant) sunscreen for their child's use
• encouraged to practise sun protective behaviours themselves
• informed that implementation is the joint responsibility of parents, teachers and students.