DANDENONG HIGH SCHOOL
SUNSMART POLICY

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

This Policy has been developed to ensure that all students and staff attending Dandenong High School are protected from over-exposure to the harmful effects of ultraviolet rays of the sun.

It is to be implemented throughout Terms 1 and 4.

Purpose
• To increase student and school community awareness of skin cancer
• To assist students to develop strategies which encourage responsible decision-making about skin protection
• To continue working towards a safe school environment which provides shade for students and staff
• To encourage students and staff to adopt sun protective behaviours for high risk times such as lunchtimes and recesses, physical education, sports, excursions, camps and yard duty
• To ensure that parents are informed of Dandenong High School’s SunSmart Policy

Implementation

Curriculum
• the Year 7 Health program will contain a compulsory unit on SunSmart
• in Physical Education classes, skin protection and eye protection, will be reinforced particularly during Terms 1 and 4
• the Faculty Coordinator of Physical Education will ensure that up-to-date material from the SunSmart program is on hand
• a container of 15+ sun screen will be situated in each House for staff on yard supervision to apply before duty
• A container of 15+ sun screen will be situated in the gymnasium for all PE staff to apply before class
• A container of 15+ sun screen will be situated in the gymnasium for all PE staff to make available to all students prior to class

Behaviour out of class
• students are encouraged to purchase and wear a Dandenong High School cap or hat, or a plain navy blue cap or brimmed hat for wear out of doors during Terms 1 and 4
• broad spectrum SPF15+ sunscreen will be promoted as an item responsible students and staff have and use effectively
• students will be encouraged to stay out of the sun if not protected from it
• staff and students will be encouraged to wear hats when on yard duty

Both students and staff will be advised that sunglasses should:
• meet the Australian Standard 1067 – close fitting, UV protection, wrap-around style
• be worn with caution due to the potential risk of breakage and injury
**Behaviour in Physical Education lessons during Terms 1 & 4**

- students are **required** to wear the suitable protective hat and to apply SPF15+ sunscreen prior to leaving the change room. Note – if students do not have a navy blue, wide brimmed or the school hat, students will still be encouraged to bring a hat to wear in all PE classes, until the appropriate arrangements can be made to purchase a suitable one
- staff are asked to lead by example

**School Organisation**

- staff organising sports, excursions and camps will ensure that skin protection is addressed in information provided to students and parents
- first aid kits must contain sunscreen
- Policy to be publicised at the beginning of Terms 1 and 4 to staff and in the Newsletter

**Environment**

- Future planning of outdoor areas should take into account the need for additional seating to be placed in shaded areas
- Students will be encouraged to use shaded seating

**School Council Endorsement Date:** 11th DECEMBER 2012