Appendix R – SunSmart Policy

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. It is estimated that more than 75 percent 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 The King David School are protected from over-exposure to the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun. This policy documents our sun protection practices in the areas of behaviour, curriculum and environment. These practices will be applied to all school activities including sports carnivals, excursions & camps. The policy is to be implemented throughout Terms 1 & 4.

Objectives
The goals of the SunSmart Policy are to:

- Increase student and community awareness of skin cancer.
- Assist students to develop strategies which encourage responsible decision-making about sun protection.
- Work towards a safe school environment which provides shade for students and staff.
- Students, parents, teachers and staff are required to wear protective clothing, hats and sunscreen during high risk times such as lunch times sports, excursions and camps.
- Ensure that parents are informed of the School’s SunSmart Policy.

Implementation

Behaviour
- All students and staff are required to wear sun protective hats that shade the face, neck and ears during recess, lunch time and during sporting and other high risk activities; wear clothing with sleeves and collars that are made from a closely woven fibre; and apply at least SPF 15 broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen before all outdoor activity and re-apply every two hours.

School Organisation
- School Uniform – A SunSmart hat is included as part of the school uniform.
- Assemblies – Outdoor assemblies will be held during the early morning or in shade where possible.
- Physical Education and Sport Education – All students to be protected to the extent reasonably possible from the sun during outdoor physical education and sport classes. Maximise the use of indoor and shade facilities. Lessons to be scheduled outside of high risk UV times protected to the extent reasonably possible.
- Camps and excursions.
- Suitable hats, clothing and sunscreen are required for all camps and excursions. These items are to be listed on the parent permission form.
- Occupational Health and Safety.
Consideration should be given to sun protection for all teachers involved in outdoor activities, including yard duty. Physical education and sport education teachers should be encouraged to take appropriate sun protection measures as they are particularly at risk from UV radiation.

Curriculum
- Incorporate sun protection and skin cancer prevention programs into the appropriate Key Learning Areas of the school curriculum.
- Encourage students to be actively involved in initiatives to protect the school community from over-exposure to the sun.
- Promote sun protection throughout the year via the school newsletter, assemblies, daily messages, parent and staff meetings and whole school activities.

Environment
- Ensure there is adequate provision of shade within the school grounds for students and staff.
- Schedule sports carnivals to minimise UV risks by holding them indoors or outside the peak UV period, protected as far as is reasonably practicable.
- Consider temporary shade structures as a short term measure.
- Plan and budget for shade for high risk areas such as canteens and assembly points.

Monitoring
This policy will be monitored by the Principal who will ensure:
- All new staff have been briefed on the SunSmart policy.
- The SunSmart policy is included as an agenda item for the first January and September staff meetings of each year.
- The SunSmart policy is included in the school handbook/school diary each year.
- SunSmart practices are promoted regularly from September through to May.
- The Anti-Cancer Council of Victoria is contacted annually to ensure that up-to-date information is maintained on SunSmart resources and policy guidelines.

Evaluation
The Principal in collaboration with staff and Moetzet will review the effectiveness of this policy each year. They will:
- Review the SunSmart behaviour of students and staff.
- Assess the provision of shade in the school.
- Assess the use of shade by students and staff.

Check plans for future buildings and grounds with regards to shade provision (in consultation with the School Council). Evaluate and update the SunSmart protection and skin cancer prevention component of the curriculum (in collaboration with the health and physical education staff).