**Featherbrook P – 9 College**

**Sunsmart Policy**

**Rationale**
To provide students, staff and parents/carers of Featherbrook College with better sun-protection knowledge and behaviours.

**Aims**
Featherbrook College aims to:
- increase student and community awareness of skin cancer risks and other damage caused by UV radiation.
- encourage the entire school community to use a combination of sun protection measures.

**Implementation**
- The sun protection measures listed below are used for all outdoor activities **during the daily local sun protection times** (issued whenever UV levels are 3 and above), typically from September to the end of April in Victoria.
- To assist with the implementation of this policy, staff and students are encouraged to access the daily local sun protection times via the SunSmart widget on the school’s website, the free SunSmart app or at sunsmart.com.au.

1. The role of **students** is to:
   1.1. wear the school uniform bucket hat which protects the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside.
   1.2. The college uniform design provides protection through collars and elbow length polo shirts and collars on the Summer dress.
   1.3. apply their own SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen before going outdoors (reapplying after a 2-hour period or more often when sweating). The school will have extra supplies of sunscreen for student use.
2. Students without a Featherbrook College bucket hat or appropriate clothing will be restricted to play in designated shaded areas and enforced by the duty teachers.
3. Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.

4. The role of **parents/carers** is to:
   4.1. be sun smart role models; actively adhering to wearing appropriate hats and clothing when outdoors.
   4.2. encourage their children to be SunSmart, supporting Featherbrook College’s implementation of SunSmart practices by ensuring they acquire the designated hat types and supplying the SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen.

5. The role of **staff** is to:
   5.1. be SunSmart role models; actively adhering to wearing a broad brimmed hat when outdoors and clothing that promotes cover including collars, elbow length sleeves and longer length shorts and skirts.
   5.2. consider the availability of shade when planning excursions and all other outdoor activities.
   5.3. encourage the use of available areas of shade when outside
   5.4. include programs on skin cancer prevention and vitamin D in the curriculum for all students.
   5.5. Use assemblies to remind students about being SunSmart.
5.6 Staff are encouraged to apply their SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen before going outdoors. The school will supply SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for teacher use.

5.7 Remind and encourage students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.

6. The role of the school is to:
   6.1. promote SunSmart practices described in the SunSmart policy which is placed on the Featherbrook College’s website.
   6.2. include the SunSmart UV Alert widget on the school’s website, indicating the level of UV radiation.
   6.3. note that from May to the end of August, sun protection is not used unless sun protection times are issued.
   6.4. prominently display SunSmart signs throughout the school.
      - The school council makes sure there are sufficient shelters and trees providing shade in outdoor areas particularly in high-use areas e.g. where students have lunch, canteen, assemblies, sports, outdoor lessons and popular play spaces.

Resources
DET School Policy & Advisory Guide
The Cancer Council of Victoria provides guidelines for the correct implementation of SunSmart procedures.
www.sunsmart.com.au

Evaluation
This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s three-year review cycle.
Review Date: 2018