



Holy Spirit
Catholic School
CRANBROOK

strength in the spirit

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| Issued: | August 2024 | DEC Policy reference: | <i>Workplace Health and Safety Policy</i> |
| Review Date: | August 2026 | Approved by: | School Board |

SunSafe Policy

Statement of Policy

Our school community shall practice behaviours and develop strategies / resources which shall ensure a sun safe environment.

Life and physical health are precious gifts entrusted to us by God. We must take reasonable care of them, taking into account the needs of others and the common good.

[New Catholic Catechism 1994]

Rationale

Skin damage, including skin cancer, often results from cumulative sun exposure. As a result, most instances of skin damage and skin cancer are preventable.

“Childhood sun exposure is an important contributing risk factor in the development of skin cancer later in life. Teaching sun safety practices to children throughout their learning years helps to shape healthy long-term habits.”

[Cancer Council Australia; National SunSmart Schools Program, 2023]

Policy Directive

Holy Spirit Catholic School will:

1. Offer continuous education that encourages individuals to take personal responsibility for preventing skin cancer and detecting it early.
2. Make sure all students and staff adopt preventive measures, such as wearing SunSafe school hats, applying SPF 50+ sunscreen, and choosing suitable clothing for outdoor activities.
3. Ensure that adequate shade, water, and sunscreen are available for events and activities as a key component of the risk management strategy.
4. Ensure that students who do not have adequate sun protection are directed to seek shaded or covered areas during recess, lunch, and all outdoor activities.
5. Raise awareness of the importance of scheduling outdoor activities to promote SunSafe practices whenever possible.
6. Notify parents about the school’s SunSafe policy during the enrolment process for their child.
7. Encourage all staff to serve as positive role models for SunSafe behaviour.
8. Request continued support from parents and the college community for the SunSafe policy and its implementation.

9. Evaluate the school's dress code and any future developments to ensure they align with the SunSafe Policy.

Resources

- [SunSmart Website](#)
- [Cancer Council Website](#)