St Thomas Aquinas’ SunSmart Policy has been developed to ensure that all students and staff attending this school are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun. This policy is to be implemented during term 1 and term 4 – when the UV radiation is most intense.

As part of general SunSmart strategies, our school will:

**Behaviour**

- require children to wear broad brimmed, legionnaire hats whenever they are outside (e.g. recess, lunch, sport, excursions).
- encourage the daily application of sunscreen before.
- encourage children to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.
- request staff and encourage parents to act as role models by practicing SunSmart behaviours.

**Curriculum**

- incorporate programs on skin cancer prevention into the curriculum.
- regularly reinforce and promote SunSmart behaviour to the whole school community through avenues such as: newsletters, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and in Parent Handbook.
- ensure the SunSmart policy is reflected in planning all outdoor events (e.g. camps, excursions, sporting events).

**Environment**

- provide sun protective clothing items as part of our school uniform.
- schedule outdoor activities before 11 am and after 3 pm during daylight saving (10 am and 2 pm other times) whenever possible
- organize outdoor activities to be held in areas with plenty of shade whenever possible.
- schedule outdoor assemblies early in the day or in an area where students are shaded.
- work towards increasing the number of shelters and trees, to provide adequate shade in the school grounds.
Evaluation

St Thomas Aquinas staff will review the effectiveness of this policy every three years.

They will:

1. Review the SunSmart behaviour of students, staff, parents and visitors and make recommendations for improvement.
2. Assess shade provision and usage and make recommendations for increases in shade provision.
3. Update and promote curriculum material relevant to SunSmart activities.