Sun Safety Policy
February 2014

Why is sun safety necessary?
Because skin cancer is so preventable! The vast majority of skin cancer is caused by overexposure to the sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation, particularly during childhood. If children learn how and why to protect themselves from the sun, they will enjoy a much lower risk of developing skin cancer.

PCW's Role & Responsibility
Though parents have a prime responsibility to teach sun-safe behavior to their children, schools are automatically involved in this issue because UV radiation strikes children, as well as staff when they are outdoors on the school campus. Students can, and sometimes do, get sunburned at school. This is significant because childhood sunburns are linked to the development of melanoma, the most deadly of the common skin cancers. Schools have a responsibility not only teach students the principles of sun safety but to adopt policies aimed at protecting students and staff from the sun's harm while they are at school and school events.

Hats and Protective Clothing
Students shall be allowed, year-round, to wear articles of sun-protective items, including hats and sunglasses, when outdoors, and shall be encouraged to do so in Terms 1 and 4.

Sunscreen and Lip Balm
Students shall be allowed, year-round, to use sunscreen and/or sun-protective lip balm (colourless), and shall be encouraged to do so in Terms 1 and 4. During summer months, sunscreen will be made available for all outdoor activities in PE/Rec.

Sunglasses
When students are outdoors they shall be allowed, year-round, to wear sunglasses that protect the eyes from UV rays, and they shall be encouraged to do so in Terms 1 and 4. Students are encouraged to wear fitted, wrap-around sunglasses for extra protection.

Shade Options
In Terms 1 and 4, PCW shall optimise shade options for students and staff, and shall encourage the utilisation of existing shaded areas for congregation and recreation. Students are not permitted at any time to sunbathe whilst on school property or at College events. Socks and shoes are not to be removed. Staff on duty must monitor this and speak to students who breach these rules.