Nareena Hills Public School

SunSafe Policy 2012
Reference: This document incorporates material from a number of School Welfare resources including the Sample Sun Smart Policy for Primary Schools issued by the Cancer Council of NSW and the Memorandum to Principals 90.027 Student Welfare: Protection from the Sun.

Rationale
Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world with 160,000 new cases and 1,200 deaths recorded each year. Four factors contribute to these statistics:

- the population is predominately fair-skinned
- ultraviolet light from the sun is of sufficient intensity to induce skin cancer in this susceptible population
- for most of this century social values have supported this belief that a suntan is healthy and attractive and
- lifestyle, work school and recreational habits expose people to the sun for long periods.

Most skin damage is preventable, and in this school community every effort will be made to encourage everyone to take effective skin protection measures.

Aims
To promote among children, staff and parents:

- Positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- Lifestyle practices which can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and the number of related deaths.
- Personal responsibility for and decision-making about skin cancer.

General School Strategies

- Children will be encouraged to wear hats which protect the face, neck and ears whenever they are outside, e.g. sport, carnivals, outdoor excursions and activities. The wearing of sun safe hats that provide protection from the sun is encouraged & promoted.

- Children who do not have a hat will be directed to play in the shade (ie the COLA, under the trees etc).
- Children will be encouraged to use shade areas for outside games and activities.
- Sport times whenever possible will be held prior to 11.00 am OR students will be encouraged to wear a hat and sunscreen if Sport occurs after 11:00am.
- Morning tea will be held between 11.00 am and 11.25 am and a reduced lunch break from 1.10 pm till 2.00 pm.
• Staff members are requested to act as role models by practising good sun protection behaviours.
• The sun protection plan will be reviewed along with other school policies. The school’s sun protection statement / action plan will be re-submitted to the Cancer Council every 3 years.

Our school will:
• Ensure hats are a part of the school uniform and that adequate shade is available for sporting and outdoor events.
• Ensure that where possible, uniforms are protective with collars and longer sleeves.
• Encourage staff & parent helpers to wear protective clothing when outdoors e.g. GA when mowing/gardening; staff when supervising outdoors; parents when working with children