NAGLE CATHOLIC COLLEGE : POLICY STATEMENT
SUN PROTECTION

Originally released: 2008
Reviewed: 2010
Due for Review: 2015

RATIONALE

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world, mainly caused by exposure to the sun. Despite the fact that skin cancer is largely preventable, one out of every two Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer during their lifetime. Western Australia continues to have the second highest incidence of skin cancer in the country after Queensland. Over-exposure to the sun during childhood and adolescence is known to be a major cause of skin cancer.

PRINCIPLES

The aim of this policy is to promote among the students, staff and parents of Nagle Catholic College:

- Positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- Lifestyle practices which help reduce the incidence of sunburn and skin damage.
- Personal responsibility for decision making about skin protection.
- An awareness of the need to wear protective clothing, hats and sunscreen during high risk times such as recess, lunch, PE lessons, excursions and camps.

PROCEDURES

- Students must wear the College broad brimmed hat at all times when they are not on/in a shaded verandah area. Students are encouraged to wear the College Broad brimmed hat to and from school.
2. Students must wear the College broad brimmed hat during class time whenever they are in direct sunlight. Students in classes that are in direct sunlight are also strongly encouraged to apply sunscreen prior to sun exposure. All teachers of such classes should supply their students with sunscreen.

- Students on a school excursion or camp are required to wear a hat when they are in direct sunlight. In such situations, if students are not wearing the Nagle Catholic College uniform, the hat does not need to be the College broad brimmed hat.
- During aquatic activities, all students are encouraged to wear rash vests.
- All staff are encouraged to model appropriate ‘sunsmart’ behaviours at all times.
- Students and staff are encouraged to use available shade on the College campus as much as possible.
- Educational programs which focus on skin cancer prevention are incorporated into the Health Education curriculum.