

SKIN PROTECTION POLICY

National Quality Standard: 2.3.2

Hackney Kindergarten follows the Cancer Council SA recommendations, implementing our skin protection policy during all but the winter months ie June, July and August. Radiation levels are monitored particularly in August when UV radiation levels may be 3 and above. This provides a balance between sun protection and sun safe exposure for the production of Vitamin D for healthy bone growth and development.

Rationale

The aim of our 'skin protection policy' is to promote among children, staff and parents:

- Positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- Lifestyle practices which can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer.
- Personal responsibility for and decision making about skin protection.
- Awareness of the potential damage that exposure to the sun can cause, in particularly between 10.00am to 3.00pm.

Implementation

This policy is for implementation from September to May of each year. Outside of this time care should also be taken when the ultraviolet radiation level is 3 (moderate) and above. The purpose of the policy is to ensure that all members of Hackney Kindergarten are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful rays of the sun.

It is an expectation that all staff, students and parents of Hackney Kindergarten will use the following skin protection strategies:

- Take care to protect the skin when the ultraviolet radiation level is 3 (moderate) and above. Extra care will be taken between 10:00am and 3:00pm when UV radiation levels are highest.
- Whenever possible, all outdoor activities will be in the shaded areas of the service.
- Use the shade of trees, pergolas and verandas.
- Wear appropriate clothing which protects the skin. Shoulders should be covered.
- Children, staff and parents will be expected to wear a broad brimmed hat, legionnaire style hat or a bucket hat whenever they are involved in outside activities. Children not wearing an appropriate hat will be expected to play in the shade or inside.
- Apply a broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen with an SPF of 30+ to clean, dry skin, 15-20 minutes before coming to preschool. Staff will assist children to apply sunscreen before going outside after lunch with parent permission.
- Families of children with specific sunscreen concerns will provide sunscreen for their children to wear.
- Reinforcing the Sun Smart message in all areas of the curriculum is an important strategy in the adoption of skin protection behaviours.
- Staff will be encouraged to role model appropriate Sun Smart strategies in all service activities.
- Skin cancer prevention will be included in appropriate teaching activities.
- Staff will be encouraged to keep up to date with new information and resources from Cancer Council SA.
- Information about the centre's Sun Safe Policy will be given to all new staff, students and Families.
- Policy issues will be discussed at staff and parent meetings.

The Staff and Governing Council will monitor, evaluate and review the effectiveness of the sun protection policy.

SKIN PROTECTION POLICY (cont'd)

This policy will be shared with all new staff and families, and is available on the website and in the preschool policies folder.

This policy has been developed in consultation with the Governing Council, staff and families of the centre.

This policy will be reviewed and evaluated regularly and modified as required to ensure continued relevance for the centre.

Date: September 2016