

Sun Protection Policy

National Quality Standard Area 2 | Children's health and safety

Children have the right to experience quality education and care in an environment that safeguards and promotes their health, safety, and wellbeing.

Purpose

All department school sites, and early childhood education and care services must have a sun protection policy in effect for preschool terms 1, 3 and 4 and whenever ultraviolet (UV) radiation levels reach 3 or above.

Sites must inform the preschool/kindergarten/children's centre community including employees, students, parents, and volunteers of the sun protection policy. Wherever possible, children and young people are encouraged to be responsible for their own sun protection.

Using sun protection

This site uses a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities on- and off-site. Throughout the year we are guided by the Cancer Councils Sun Smart App.

Clothing

Children are encouraged to wear Sun protective clothing at this site. Clothing should be cool, loose fitting and made of closely woven fabric. This includes shirts with elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash tops or t-shirts for water play.

Sunscreen

This site provides SPF30+ (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen for children's use.

Children apply sunscreen under the supervision of educators at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if remaining outdoors.

Strategies are in place to remind children to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.

Families with children who have naturally very dark skin are encouraged to discuss their vitamin D requirements with their GP or paediatrician. It is the responsibility of families to check the notice board for the updated SunSmart protection recommendations and apply sunscreen on arrival if the daily UV is rated 3 and above. Children with skin allergies will be required to bring their own sunscreen.

Hats

This site provides hats for the children. All children are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck, and ears e.g., legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats, whenever the UV is 3 and above. Baseball or peak caps are not acceptable.

Shade

Care is taken during the peak UV radiation times, and outdoor activities are scheduled outside of these times or in the shade where possible. Outdoor events are scheduled to be held during term two or earlier in the day where practical.

Children are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.

Children who do not have appropriate hats or clothing are asked to stay in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

Curriculum

Programs on skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum.

Sun Smart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted through newsletters, enrolment packs, and throughout the day at group times.

Supporting information

The information has been extracted from the *Cancer Council SA SunSmart early childhood policy guidelines*

(https://www.cancersa.org.au/uploads/sunsmart/SS_ECC_Policy_Guidelines.pdf).

Approvals

Approved by:

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