

Sun Protection Policy

Objective: To ensure children's exposure to sun is done in a reasonable way to ensure their safety is maintained in accordance with current Sun Safe Practices and without inhibiting their enjoyment of outdoor experiences.

Parents are asked to leave a container of SPF 30+ sunscreen, preferably water resistant, at the Centre. The container must be clearly labeled with the child's name. Staff will re-apply the sunscreen 20 minutes to children returning outside. Children over the age of three will be supervised in applying their own sunscreen prior to outdoor play.

All children and staff must wear hats when outside all year round. In order to provide adequate sun protection, broad brimmed or legionnaire style hats which give better protection are preferable.

Parents are requested to dress children in appropriate clothing that gives protection from the sun. Children wearing clothing that does not provide adequate protection eg: singlets, shoe string straps will be required to play in shade protected areas only.

Outdoor activities will be organised to avoid peak sun exposure times. During daylight saving months (October through to late March) peak exposure times are between 11:00am and 3:00pm EST and between 10:00am to 2:00pm the remainder of the year. Optimum use of the sailed (shaded) area is to be utilised whilst undertaking outdoor activities.

Staff shall model sun safe practices by wearing hats, sunscreen and appropriate clothing (sunglasses are optional). The Centre will provide broad brimmed hats for staff, however staff may provide their own broad brimmed hat if preferred.

Staff will provide experiences that inform and encourage children to adopt sun safe practices. Sun protection awareness will be incurred in regular teaching programmes.

Children under 12mths of age will always remain in dense shade whilst outside. Parents are required to dress babies in clothes that cover as much skin as possible as well as provide an appropriate hat.

All excursions will be developed with special consideration to the Sun Protection Policy. For example: timing, sunscreen application / reapplication, use of shade etc. Parents will be informed of specific sun protection requirements appropriate for the excursion.

Staff will demonstrate a commitment to parent education by making Sun Safety information available within the Centre. Sun Protection Policy requirements will be incorporated in enrolment information, excursion notes, displays, notice boards and parent newsletters.

REF: The Cancer Council of NSW has been used as a guideline to develop the above policy.