

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 school terms 1, 3 and 4 and whenever ultraviolet (UV) radiation levels reach 3 or above.

Sites must inform the kindergarten 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 for school terms 1, 3 and 4 and whenever ultraviolet (UV) radiation levels reach 3 or above including:

Clothing

Sun protective clothing should be provided by parents for children to wear 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 or shorts and rash tops or t-shirts for water play.

Sunscreen

Sunscreen is required to be applied prior to children arriving at kindergarten, sunscreen is provided upon arrival. Parents wishing to use specific sunscreen need to provide their own SPF30+ (or higher) broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen and the site supplies SPF30+ (or higher) broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for children's use. Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors in the middle of the day and reapplied every two hours if remaining outdoors.

Strategies are in place to remind children to apply sunscreen before going outdoors (e.g., reminder notices to go home and visual reminders on our daily schedule sunscreen). Families with children who have naturally very dark skin are encouraged to discuss their vitamin D requirements with their GP or paediatrician.

Hats

All children are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck, and ears e.g., legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats, whenever they are outside. Kindergarten hats are supplied to be kept at kindergarten for the year.

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 (under the veranda, inside the building are offered as shady areas to play).

Curriculum

Programs on skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum for all year levels.

Sun Smart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole kindergarten community through newsletters, internet homepage, parent meetings, staff meetings and teacher activities and in student enrolment packs.

Supporting information

The information has been extracted from the [Cancer Council SA SunSmart policy](#).

Record history

Approvals

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Approved by: Catherine Day | Director, McKellar Stewart Kindergarten

Approved by: Katie Cousins | Governing Council Chair, McKellar Stewart Kindergarten

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Approved by: Name | Kate Edwards, McKellar Stewart

Approved by: Sophie Wilkinson | Governing Council Chair, McKellar Stewart Kindergarten

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