

Elizabeth O'Grady Kindergarten Policies & Procedures

10 Charles Sturt Ave Grange SA 5022, 8356 8035

Sun Safety Policy

RATIONALE

The Cancer Council (www.cancersa.org.au) tells us that:

- Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world.
- Two out of three Australians will be diagnosed with some form of skin cancer before the age of 70.
- The main cause of skin cancer is exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation.
- The UV Index shows the intensity of the sun's UV radiation. An Index of three (moderate) or above indicates that UV levels are high enough to cause skin damage and sun protection is needed.
- Because of the high levels of UV radiation in Australia, all skin types are at risk of developing skin cancer

OBJECTIVES

- Skin cancer is preventable.
- Kindergartens are ideally placed to help reduce the incidence of skin cancer by developing good habits in and an understanding of the effects of the sun by the children at the centre.
- Our Centre's philosophy promotes each child's right to be safe.
- The aims of this policy are to promote amongst children, staff and parents:
 - Positive attitudes towards skin protection.
 - Lifestyle practices that help reduce the incidence of skin damage.

PROCEDURES

1. All children and staff will wear hats outside when the Ultra Violet alert on the Bureau of Meteorology website reports that the U.V. index is 3 or above when it is outside play time.
2. Children without hats will need to play inside or in the sandpit - please note this can be very difficult for children when they are here all day.
3. Hats must be either broad brimmed, legionnaire or bucket style and provide appropriate protection to the nose, ears and back of the neck (baseball caps, visors, beanies and hoods **are not** considered appropriate sun safe hats):
 - a. Legionnaire style hats should have a flap that meets the sides of the front peak to provide protection to the side of the face
 - b. A bucket hat should have a deep crown so it sits low on the head and has an angled brim. The kindergarten sells bucket hats with a 5.5cm brim.

WARNING- please be aware of the possible choking hazard if children have strings attached to their hats.

4. In terms 1 and 4- parents are to apply sunblock to their own children each morning. Educators will reapply sunscreen at lunch time if the UV rating is 6 or above. If your child has sensitive skin, please let staff know and provide appropriate sunscreen for your own child to use.
5. Outdoor activities will be located only in shaded areas when the temperature is approximately 33 degrees or above.
6. Staff will act as role models for the children.
7. Staff will incorporate sun and skin awareness activities into teaching programs.
8. Staff and children can wear protective eye wear, i.e. sunglasses, if they choose.

Concluding statement

This policy has been developed by the Governing Council, and will be reviewed and evaluated regularly by both Staff and Governing Council and modified as required to ensure continued relevance for the Centre.

This policy was endorsed by the Governing Council on: 26/10/2022

Director: Kellie Holbrook

Chairperson: Michelle Jones

Review date: Term 4 2025