



Banksia Park Kindergarten

QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY

Sun Protection Policy

Reviewed May 2022

Rationale

Research continues to highlight skin protection, especially in the first 18 years of life, as a major strategy in the fight against skin cancer. Outdoor Activities are part of a child's day at kindergarten, so skin protection measures must become a part of their daily routine. This policy will work best when implemented by staff and parents together.

National Quality Standards 2.3.2 states that every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury. As exposure to harmful UV rays is considered a hazard, it is our duty to protect children from these harmful rays.

Implementation

Consistent with the Department for Education and SunSmart guidelines, this policy is implemented during terms 1, 3 and 4, and whenever the UV is 3 and above at other times.

1. Staff will use available areas of shade for outdoor activities as much as possible.
2. Extra care will be taken during peak UV radiation times and every attempt will be made to schedule outdoor activities outside of these times.
3. Excursions and outdoor functions will be planned with shade provisions in mind.
4. Parents are to ensure they provide their child with a named sun hat at all times. The best options include wide brimmed hats, bucket hats or legionnaires hat. Hats with cords are not permitted due to safety concerns (See Dfe hazard alert).
5. Children must wear sun safe hats offering face and neck protection whenever they play outdoors during terms 1, 3 and 4 and when the UV levels are 3 and above. Staff will remind the children to wear their hats. **NO HATS = VERANDAH OR INSIDE ONLY.**
6. When the UV levels are below 3, children can safely be outside without sun protection as this is the best time to get vitamin D from sunlight.
7. Children must wear appropriate sun protective clothing. We recommend tops with a collar and longer sleeves. Longer style shorts, dresses and skirts are also recommended to protect legs from the sun exposure. Singlets or midriff tops are not appropriate clothing for protecting our skin from the sun and therefore are not to be worn.
8. Parents and volunteers will be actively encouraged to model Sun Smart behaviours.
9. Parents will be asked to apply SPF 30+ or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen on their child prior to kindergarten to be of maximum effect.
10. SPF 30+ or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is made available to children throughout the day. Staff will assist children in applying sunscreen 20 minutes prior to returning to outside play and sunscreen will be reapplied every two hours, or more often if wiped or washed off.

11. Staff will incorporate sun and skin awareness activities into teaching activities.
12. Staff will be positive role models by wearing hats and appropriate clothing for all outdoor activities, by directing children to shady areas and by ensuring children wear their hats.
13. Sun Smart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the kindergarten community through newsletters, staff meetings and upon enrolment.

Supporting Information

1. Inclement weather and sun protection (DfE)
2. National Quality Standard and regulations
 - a. Regulation 168 (2) (a) (ii) - Policies and procedures
 - b. National Quality Standard - Standard 2.3 - Children's safety
 - c. Regulation 114 - Shade
3. Cancer Council SA – Sun Smart policy Information

Approved and Checked

Governing Council Approval: May 2022

Preschool Director: Meg Green

Governing Council Chairperson: Jane Mangos

Next Review Date: 2025