

BALLARA PARK KINDERGARTEN



SKIN PROTECTION POLICY and PROCEDURE

Research suggests that unprotected exposure to the sun during childhood is an important factor in the development of skin cancer later in life.

It is with this in mind that we advise parents of the following guidelines and procedures:

- The sun protection policy is in place during terms 1, 3 and 4 (or 1 August to 30 April) and when the ultraviolet (UV) radiation level is 3 and above, at other times.
- Children will be encouraged to wear hats at all times when outside during the prescribed times listed above. Staff will ensure children place their hat back on if it falls off, or re direct the child to an area protected from the sun if the child is unable or unwilling to comply with this policy/procedure. During Term 2, educators will ask children to wear hats on days when UV radiation levels are 3 or above.
- Staff and Children will access the SunSmart app for the daily UV index
- Children should always come to Kindergarten with a named hat.
- All children and staff are required to wear a broad-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hat. Baseball caps are not acceptable. Children who do not have appropriate hats or clothing with them are asked to play in an area protected from the sun. Hats must not have a strap attached due to a choking hazard.
- Children's shoulders must be covered. Please ensure that a spare sun safe shirt is in your child's bag at all times for outdoor activities. Shirts with collars and longer sleeves and longer style shorts, dresses and skirts are best.
- SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is supplied by the centre for children and staff use. Sunscreen is applied 20 minutes before going outdoors and re-applied every two hours if outdoors.
- Sunscreen should be applied by parents to all exposed areas prior to arrival at kindergarten.
- Sunscreen will be re-applied prior to children preparing for morning snack and lunch on days when UV Radiation is 3 or above.
- Sun cream will be applied every 2 hours in accordance with 'Sun Safe' guidelines.

- Staff wear hats and sunscreen when outside at times when UV rating is 3 or above and/or Terms 1 and 4. Sunglasses are recommended.
- Our educational program will include information about health issues concerning sun safety.
- Experiences will be set up in the shade on days of extreme heat.

This policy has been developed and endorsed by the staff and Governing Council. This document has been reviewed using the Cancer Council's 'Sun protection policy review checklist for South Australian early childhood centres.'

Last review and endorsement by Governing Council 27 March 2023