



# FLAXMILL PRESCHOOL

## QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY

### Policy 12: Sun Protection and Hot Weather Policy

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#### **RATIONALE**

A balance of ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposure is important for health. Too much of the sun's UV radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Sun exposure during childhood and adolescence is a major factor in determining future skin cancer risk.

Too little UV radiation from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones and muscles, and for general health. Sensible sun protection when UV is 3 and above does not put people at risk of vitamin D deficiency.

Sun protection during childhood and adolescence means life-long reduced risk. Skin cancer is preventable. The Cancer Council SA advises people protect their skin at times when the ultraviolet (UV) radiation is 3 or above.

Our centre's philosophy ensures every child has the right to be safe at Preschool.

This policy applies to all preschool events on and off-site.

#### **OBJECTIVES**

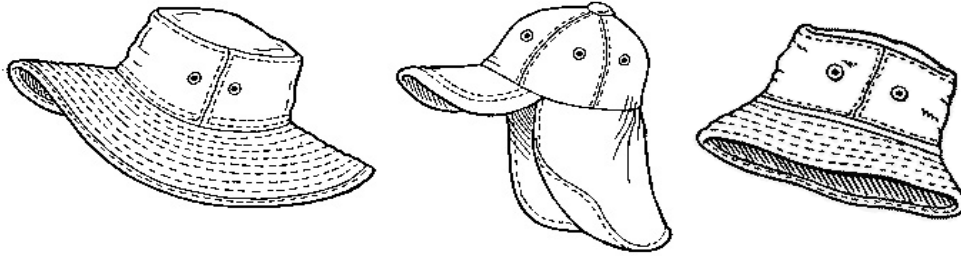
This Sun Protection policy has been developed to:

- Encourage positive attitudes towards skin protection that help to reduce the incidence of skin damage.
- Encourage children, parents and staff to use a combination of sun protection measures whenever UV Index levels reach 3 and above
- work towards a safe outdoor environment that provides shade for children and staff at appropriate times
- assist children to be responsible for their own sun protection
- ensure families and new staff are informed of the Preschool's Sun Protection policy.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

**Our policy is implemented in Terms 1 and 4.**

- All children and staff will wear hats outside in Term 1 and 4.
- Children without hats will need to play in shaded areas.
- Sun safe hats are either broad brimmed, legionnaire or bucket. (Baseball caps, beanies and hoods are not considered appropriate sun safe hats.



- Parents are to apply sunscreen to their child prior to attending Preschool. Sunscreen is provided on the trolley next to the Preschool door for parents to use on their child if required.
- Sunscreen (SPF 30 or higher) will be reapplied after lunch with staff supervision when children will be outside. (If your child has sensitive skin please provide appropriate sunscreen).
- Outdoor activities will be located in the shaded areas when possible.
- Staff will incorporate sun and skin awareness activities into our teaching programs.
- Children and staff are to wear appropriate protective clothing which protects the skin.
- Staff and children can wear protective eye wear, ie sunglasses, if they choose.

### **EXTREME HOT WEATHER**

The Preschool remains open during very hot weather as the building is air conditioned.

On hot days where the maximum temperature is forecast to be 36C or more children will only be allowed to play in shaded areas, in the sandpit and inside.

### **SUPPORTIVE RESOURCES**

<b>Publication Date</b>	June 2022	<b>Review Date</b>	June 2023
Related Policies, Procedures, Guidelines, Standards, Frameworks	<a href="#">National Quality Standard 2.3.pdf</a> Regulation 168 (2)(a)(ii) – Policies and Procedures <a href="https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sl-2011-0653#ch.4-pt.4.7-div.2">https://legislation.nsw.gov.au/view/html/inforce/current/sl-2011-0653#ch.4-pt.4.7-div.2</a>  <a href="#">Regulation 114 - Shade.pdf</a>  Sunsmart Website <a href="https://www.sunsmart.com.au/">https://www.sunsmart.com.au/</a>  Bureau of Meteorology <a href="http://www.bom.gov.au/">http://www.bom.gov.au/</a>  South Australian Country Fire Service <a href="https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/bans-and-ratings/">https://www.cfs.sa.gov.au/bans-and-ratings/</a>		

	<p>Cancer Council SA <a href="https://www.cancersa.org.au/">https://www.cancersa.org.au/</a></p> <p>Australian Standards AS/NZS 1067 (for protective eye wear) <a href="https://www.arpana.gov.au/understanding-radiation/radiation-sources/more-radiation-sources/sun-protection-sunglasses">https://www.arpana.gov.au/understanding-radiation/radiation-sources/more-radiation-sources/sun-protection-sunglasses</a></p>
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**Endorsed by Staff and Governing Council June 2022**

**Policy review: This policy will be reviewed annually and/or as required based on department policy updates and/or advice.**

