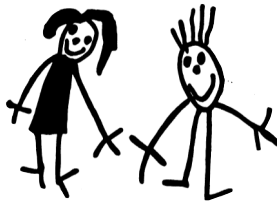


# HIGHBURY

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# PRESCHOOL

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## Hot Weather Policy

### Rationale

The South Australian climate can pose risks related to heat exposure and dehydration, with young children being in the most vulnerable group. It has therefore being necessary for a policy to be developed outlining the risks and appropriate measure to be implemented to keep children safe from the potential impact of heat. Sports Medicine Australia provides guidelines outlining recommendations about young children's exposure to the elements, including humidity and temperature.

### Objectives

- Children to develop an awareness of the impact of weather conditions on their own health and wellbeing
- Children will be able to make informed decisions about safe areas to play.

### Implementation

This policy would be a focus for Terms 1 and 4, when temperatures are potentially likely to be in the high thirties. It will be enforced through out the year as deemed necessary.

On hot weather days, Educators will risk assess shaded areas of play and appropriate time frames for children to play outside. This may include not moving outdoors at all in times of excessive heat.

Children will be reminded to drink water frequently from their water bottles, or centre cups if drink bottles have been left at home. Recommendations are made for children's drink bottles to be semi frozen prior to Kindy, to support the water in remaining cool.

Ice packs are strongly recommended for all lunchboxes provided by families for snacks and lunch times.

When children stay for a full day, their lunches remain inside of the building until all food has been eaten.

The centre is air conditioned, but in the event of a power failure, or air conditioning fault when temperatures are 35 degrees or above, families will be contacted and provided with the opportunity to collect their child/children early from the centre.

Educators will discuss warning signals related to heat within the learning program, to assist children to be able to recognise when they are feeling hot.

*The Educators at Highbury Preschool thank you in advance for your support of this policy.*