



Kimba Community Kindergarten

Sun Protection Policy

Rationale

‘Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world with two out of every three people developing some form of skin cancer before they are 70. Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun. Sun exposure in the first ten years of life determines, to a substantial degree, the likelihood of skin cancer developing later in life. Cancer Council SA advises people to protect their skin at times when the ultraviolet (UV) radiation level is 3 and above—this is when it is strong enough to cause damage to unprotected skin. For much of South Australia, UV radiation levels are 3 and above every day from September to April—it is during these months that sun protection is necessary’.

Policy statement

Kimba Community Kindergarten promotes a balance between sun protection and sun exposure to reduce the risk of skin damage and skin cancer, and the production and maintenance of vitamin D among children and educators.

When the UV index reaches 3 or above protective measures will be actioned.

Legislation

We align our sun protection policy/procedure with;

- The Cancer Council of South Australia (We are apart of a three year review with the organisation)
- National Quality Standards
- Early Years Learning Framework
- Health and Safety Act





Sun Protection Policy

Procedure

Children:

- Will be supplied with a broad brim hat on the commencement of kindy, which will remain at the site all year. Children attending occasional care are asked to bring a broad brim hat every session with spare hats available.
- When the ultraviolet rays are 3 or above, children are to wear hats in the outdoor environment. In addition, an educator will assist with the application of Cancer Council approved sunscreen before lunch.
- Children are encouraged to play in shaded areas that are out of the direct sun.

Educators including volunteers/visitors:

- Are encouraged to role model sun protective behaviours by wearing suitable sun protective clothing and a broad brim hat when the UV rating is above 3.
- Educators are to be mindful in the way the environment is set up to encourage children to play in shaded areas.
- Will monitor the UV rating daily and apply it to our sun protective policy.
- Information about the centre's Sun Protection Policy will be given to all new staff, students and families.

Parents:

- Are encouraged to apply sunscreen in the morning (or the beginning of a afternoon for occasional care sessions) when the UV index is 3 or above. Sunscreen will be available to parents on site.
- Are encouraged to dress their children in suitable sun protective clothing.

Environment:

- The outdoor environment is reviewed on a termly basis to assess if temporary/fixed shade structures are adequate to protect from the sun.
- Awareness of the need for environmental changes at our site to reduce the level of sun exposure when the UV index is 3 and above.

