

KLEMZIG KINDERGARTEN

INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY

Klemzig Kindergarten

Nurture & Growth & Excellence

This policy is to ensure that in cases of extreme weather people are safe from the risk of hyper/hypothermia or weather related injuries. This policy includes the kindergarten's **Hot Weather** procedures.

National Quality Standard 2.3 Regulation 168 (2) (a) (ii) Related Key Regulations: 114

At Klemzig Kindergarten preschool staff work with children and families to ensure everyone's safety and wellbeing in situations of hot weather, storms or strong winds. Staff recognise the importance of helping children to regulate their behaviours in inclement weather and will work with children and families to develop appropriate responses when the weather reaches extremes. This kindergarten has adequate air-conditioning in all inside areas, covered verandahs and shady areas and shelter for safe play.

Educators will:

- Take reasonable care to protect their own health and safety and that of others in the workplace
- Activate appropriate cooling systems for comfort and relief in times of hot weather. All air conditioning and heating systems are adjustable to suit the weather and temperature.
- Undertake risk assessments for outdoor play experiences if the weather is unpredictable or there are weather warnings and close down areas that are unsafe to play near (e.g. near trees in extreme wind)
- Ensure activities conducted in periods of hot weather are to be undertaken in shaded areas.
- Encourage children to wear hats outside when the UV rating is higher than 3.
- Encourage children to be frequently drink water or fluids.
- Ensure drinking water is accessible to children at all times.
- Ensure lunches are stored inside and promote families provide a cooling element to keep food cold until lunch time.

Parents/Caregivers will:

• Dress children and provide extra clothing that is weather appropriate i.e. layers for cold weather, minimise heat gain, layers that can be easily removed during activity and of a type that is sun safe and dry clothes after playing in rain etc.

Parents/Caregivers may wish to collect children early on days of extreme weather. However the Preschool has cooling systems and will remain open for normal operating hours.

Our Preschool follows the recommendation of the Cancer Council of SA; www.cancersa.org.au/aspx/sunsmart.aspx

Sources and references

- Cancer Council SA SunSmart Early Childhood Program www.cancersa.org.au/aspx/SunSmart program policy resources.aspx
- DECD Inclement weather and sun protection Procedure (Dec 2016)
- Early Childhood Education and Care National Quality Standards

Reviewed August 2017