



## SUN PROTECTION POLICY

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

### National Quality Standard Area 2 | Children's health and safety

Children have the right to experience quality education and care in an environment that safeguards and promotes their health, safety, and wellbeing.

**Regulation 168** Education and care services must have policies and procedures. Health and Safety, including matters relations to:  
Sun protection

**Purpose:** All department school sites, and early childhood education and care services must have a sun protection policy in effect for school terms 1, 3 and 4 (1<sup>st</sup> August to 30<sup>th</sup> April) and whenever ultraviolet (UV) radiation levels reach 3 or above.

The site must inform the Kindergarten community including employees, students, parents, and volunteers of the sun protection policy. Wherever possible, children and young people are encouraged to be responsible for their own sun protection.

**Background :** The sun's ultraviolet (UV) radiation can't be seen or felt and is most intense during the middle of the day. Whatever the weather, it's important for people to use sun protection whenever UV levels are three or higher.  
Too much of the sun's UV 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.

**Procedures:** To assist with the implementation of this policy, staff and students access and display the daily UV levels and local sun protection times using the free [SunSmart app](#).

**In South Australian the UV is typically above 3 during these months  
August to end of April**

#### 1. Seek shade

- The Kindergarten Governing council makes sure there are sufficient shelters and trees providing shade in outdoor areas particularly in high-use areas where students have lunch, and popular play spaces – sandpit, swings.



- The availability of shade is considered when planning all other outdoor activities.
- Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.
- Students who do not have appropriate hats or outdoor clothing are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.
- In consultation with the school council, shade provision is considered in plans for future buildings and grounds.

## **2. Slip on sun protective clothing**

- When outside children are encouraged to wear loose fitting clothing that cover as much skin as possible. Clothing made from cool, closely woven fabric is recommended, if a child is wearing a singlet top or dress, they wear a t-shirt over the top before going outdoors.

## **3. Slap on a hat**

- Children are provided with a sun protective hat at the start of their Kindy year.
- All students and staff are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears (legionnaire, broad-brimmed or bucket hat), whenever they are outside. Peak caps and visors are not considered a suitable alternative

## **4. Slap on sunscreen**

- The Kindergarten supplies SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen
- Families are asked to ensure their child has applied sunscreen before coming to Kindy, sunscreen is reapplied every two hours while at Kindy.
- Sunscreen is stored in a cool place, out of the sun and the expiry date is monitored.
- Children are explicitly taught how to apply sunscreen and encouraged to apply their own under the supervision of staff
- Children with sensitive skin are asked to provide their own SPF30+ (or higher) broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen.

## **5. Slide on sunglasses [if practical]**

- Where practical students are encouraged to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category lens category 2,3 or 4)) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

## **6. Enrolment and information for families**

- When enrolling their child, families are informed of the Centres Sun Protection policy. Families are asked to sign permission for staff to assist applying sunscreen to their child.

## **7. Staff WHS and role modelling**

As part of WHS UV risk controls and role modelling, when the UV radiation is 3 and above: staff-

- Wear sun protective hats, clothing and sunglasses when outside
- Apply SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen
- Seek shade whenever possible

## **Curriculum**

- Programs on sun protection are included in the curriculum and Kindergarten program.
- SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the Kindergarten community through newsletters, Kindergarten website and at the parent information session and booklet each year.
- Students are encouraged to be involved in initiatives to promote and model sun protection measures to the whole school community including taking leadership roles in managing sun protection e.g. accessing daily UV levels and sun protection times, hat reminders and management of sunscreen.

## **Supporting Information**

Adapted from *Cancer Council SA's Sun Protection Policy for Early Childhood Centres*

### *Approvals*

Status: Draft

Version: 0.1

Approved by: Sarah Moore | Director, Magill Kindergarten

Approved by: Governing Council, Magill Kindergarten

Approval date: May 2023

Next review date: 10 August 2026 (must be 3 years from the approved date)