



Norrie Stuart Childhood Services Centre Policy

National Quality Standard
2

Regulation
168 (2) (a) (ii)

Related Key Regulations: 100, 113, 114,

Sun Protection

Updated July 2020

[Skin Protection Policy](#)

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.

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

Australia has one of the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world and skin damage is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun.

Sun exposure during childhood and adolescence is a major factor in determining future skin cancer risk.

This policy is in line with ACECQA regulations (NQS) and DECD policy.

Objectives

This policy has been developed to:

- encourage children and staff to use a combination of sun protection measures whenever UV Index levels are 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 Centre's Skin Protection policy.

Procedures

In line with the Department for Education and Cancer council SA guidelines we use a combination of sun protection measure for all outdoor activities during terms 1, 3 and 4 and whenever UV radiation levels reach 3 and above at other times. We use a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities during terms one, three and four (1 August until 30 April) and whenever UV radiation levels reach 3 and above at other times.

Extra care is taken during the peak UV radiation times and outdoor activities are scheduled outside of these times where possible.

Staff are encouraged to access the daily sun protection times on the SunSmart app or at bom.gov.au/uv/index.shtml to assist with the implantation of this policy

1. Clothing

Quality area 2: Children's health and safety

When outside, children are required to wear loose fitting clothing that cover as much skin as possible. Clothing made from cool, closely woven fabric is recommended. Tops with collars and elbow length sleeves, and knee length or longer style shorts and skirts are best. If a child is wearing a singlet top or dress they wear a t-shirt/shirt over the top before going outdoors.

2. Sunscreen

Quality area 2: Children's health and safety

SPF 30 or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is available for staff and children's use.

Sunscreen is applied at least twenty minutes before going outdoors

Parents are asked to apply sunscreen to children before their arrival at Kindy

Children, once old enough, are encouraged to apply their own sunscreen under the supervision of staff.

3. Hats

Quality area 2: Children's health and safety

All children are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears, i.e. legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats. Baseball or peak caps are not considered a suitable alternative.

Sun safe hats are available for purchase at centre at a minimal cost and a spare hat may be provided from the centre.



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4. Shade

Quality area 2: Children's health and safety

Quality area 3: Physical environment

- A shade audit is conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade.
- Management ensures there is a sufficient number of shelters and trees providing shade in the outdoor area.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all other outdoor activities.
- Children are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.
- Children who do not have appropriate hats or outdoor clothing are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

5. Staff WHS and role modelling

Quality area 5: Relationships with children

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.

6. Enrolment and information for families

Quality area 6: Collaborative partnerships with families and communities

When enrolling their child, families are:

- informed of the Centre's Skin Protection policy and asked to sign compliance and understanding of the policy
- asked to provide a suitable hat for their child or they are available for purchase at centre
- asked to provide their child with suitable outdoor clothing that is cool and covers as much skin as possible (i.e. covering the shoulders, chest, upper arms and legs).

- informed we will provide SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for their child. Children requiring their own sunscreen will be asked to supply it, this will be labelled, stored safely and used only by the child.
- families and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures (sun protective clothing and hats, shade, sunglasses and sunscreen) when attending the centre.

7. Education

Quality area 1: Educational program and practice

Quality area 5: Relationships with children

Quality area 6: Collaborative partnerships with families and communities

- Sun protection is incorporated into the learning and development program.
- The Skin Protection policy is reinforced through staff and children's activities and displays.
- Staff and families are provided with information on sun protection through family newsletters, noticeboards and the centre's website.

8. Hot Weather

Children have access at all time to water and are offered water frequently. In the event of inadequate provision of cooling (aircon breakdown) when the temperature is above 36 degrees, families will be contacted to collect children early and the remaining children will be supervised with water cooling activities until time of collection

9. Policy review

Quality area 7: Governance and leadership

Management and staff monitor and review the effectiveness of the SunSmart policy and revise the policy when required (at least once every three years).

Date of next policy review

To be reviewed June 2023