

# Sir Thomas Playford Kindergarten

## Sun Safe Policy

### Link to National Quality Standards

2.3 *Each child is protected*

2.3.2 *Every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury.*

Sir Thomas Playford kindergarten is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy work environment for its staff, children and visitors.

This policy aims to ensure that all children and staff attending the centre are protected (as much as practicable) from skin damage and heat stress caused by the sun and its radiation. As part of this policy staff, visitors and children will wear a hat outside during the months of September through to April.

The staff and Governing Council of the Centre with the help of The Cancer Council south Australia "Sun Smart Advice for Early Childhood Centres" booklet and Department for Education and Child Development policies have formulated this policy.

### Director Responsibilities

The director will ensure that:

- The Governing Council will endeavour to maintain the number of shelters and tress providing shade, ensuring they provide adequate shade and are in good repair.
- The Governing Council will make sure Centre air conditioning and fans are maintained.

### Staff Responsibilities

Each employee is legally responsible for their own health and safety and must avoid adversely affecting the health and safety of any other person.

Staff will be positive role models who practice skin protection behaviour. This means that staff will:

- On hot days, from the beginning of September to the end of April, in relation to extreme heat and /or UV levels, outdoor activities will be restricted to shaded areas or inside play only.
- When the temperature reaches 35°C and above children will only play inside.
- Staff are given the opportunity to have a break from outside duties on hot days to relieve heat stress. The onus is on the staff member to request a break.
- Incorporate sun and skin awareness activities into teaching programs.
- During Term's 1 and 4 and when the UV radiation levels are high, staff will supply and assist children that attend full day sessions to apply 30+ sunscreen at lunch time.

- Model sun smart behaviour.
- Ensure that children who do not have their hats with them will play under verandah areas protected from the sun, according to the "no hat, no outside play" procedure. This is in effect all year.
- Be encouraged to wear sunscreen and appropriate clothing for outdoor activities. 30+ sunscreen will be supplied by the Centre for the for the staff to use.
- Be expected to use and direct children to shaded areas in all possible instances.
- Wear hats all year round when outside
- Provide drinking water and encourage all children to keep up fluid levels, and maintain their own fluid intake.
- Make bucket style hats available for purchase.

### **Parent's Responsibilities**

*On enrolment of their child, parents will be asked to meet the following requirements:*

- *Become familiar with this policy*
- *Ensure their child has a hat each day with the child's name clearly labelled on it, for their child's use at Kindergarten (broad brimmed, bucket style with a 5cm brim) N.B. These are the only acceptable hats all year round. Caps are not suitable protection and are not allowed to be worn. Beanies and hoods are not acceptable either as they don't provide proper protection.*
- *Use SPF 30+ broad spectrum sunscreen on their child before they arrive at kindergarten (Please check to make sure the sunscreen has not been made with nut oils, e.g. "Hamilton Sunscreen" brand has no nut oils/traces in it).*
- *Encouraged to dress their children i clothes that provide greater sun protection - shirts/tops with collars and sleeves are recommended.*
- *To wear a broad-brimmed/bucket hat outside when helping at the centre or on excursions. The centre will not supply hats for borrowing, due to the risk of spreading head lice. This policy will operate throughout the year to reinforce sun protection behaviour, and to acknowledge that damaging UV rays are present all year round.*

### **Review and Evaluation**

*Evaluation of the effectiveness of this policy and associated procedures will occur through analysis of accident and incident reports, staff meetings, during annual hazard checks and annual reviews of the policy.*

*Signed:.....Governing Council Chairperson*

*Signed:.....Director*

*Date:*

*Policy Review Date:*