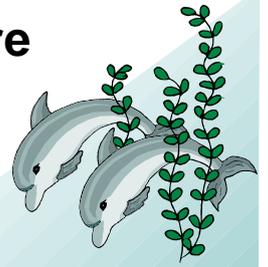
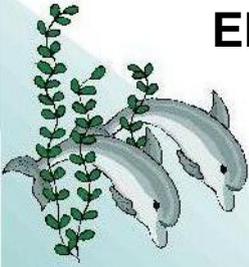


Elliston RSL Memorial Children's Centre

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Director: Annie Williams



SKIN PROTECTION POLICY

Background

Sun exposure during childhood is a critical factor in determining future skin cancer risk. Skin and eye damage, and skin cancer is caused by overexposure to UV radiation, and the damage is cumulative and irreversible. UV radiation cannot be seen or felt, and differs from infrared radiation that we feel as heat. Therefore, UV levels are unrelated to temperature.

The Skin Protection Policy is implemented during terms 1, 3 and 4, and when the UVR level is 3 and above at other times. Staff are encouraged to check the daily sun protection times each morning via the SunSmart app, www.myuv.com.au or www.bom.gov.au.

1. **Hat wearing by children.** All children must wear a broad brimmed hat whenever outdoors.
2. **Babies** (under the age of 12 months) will be kept out of the direct sun when the UV is 3 and above, and will always be protected by shade, clothing and hats. This also applies to Playgroup. Sunscreen should be applied to small areas of exposed skin, for infants 6 months and above.
3. **Shade Use.** Staff to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities as much as possible.
4. **No Hat –No Outdoor Play.** Children who do not have an appropriate hat or clothing with them must play indoors.
5. **Clothing.** Children and staff are expected to wear clothing that covers as much skin as possible including tops with collars and elbow length sleeves and longer style shorts, skirts and dresses. Clothing is to be loose fitting to keep children cool and made of closely woven material. Singlet tops, tank tops or dresses with shoe string straps are not suitable as they do not protect the skin.
6. **Timing.** Extra care is taken during the peak UV times of the day. Outdoor excursions are held either early or later in the day to avoid the heat and to also avoid peak UV times of the day.
7. **Staff and parents as Role Models.** Staff and parents to act as positive role models by routinely practising SunSmart behaviours including wearing appropriate hat, sunscreen, seeking shade and clothing when involved in centre activities outdoors.
8. **Sunscreen.** Parents are asked to apply an SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum sunscreen, water resistant to their children before they attend each day. Sunscreen will be accessible on the Sunscreen station. Adequate time will be allowed for correct application of sunscreen on children before they go outdoors.
9. **Information.** Appropriate information on skin protection is included in the children's programming – display of posters, discussions, storybooks, songs, poems and finger plays, games and play experiences (imaginative play).
10. **Promotion.** SunSmart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole community via newsletters and at parent meetings, and all families and staff members are informed of the policy.

11. **Shade.** The Centre's grounds have a lot of shade with the trees, and the built shade structures. This is to be maintained and audited regularly.
12. **Review.** This policy is to be reviewed every year by monitoring the Centre's compliance with its policy and making suggestions for improvement.

Director

Governing Council

Endorsed at Governing Council Meeting 23 February, 2018
Review: February 2019