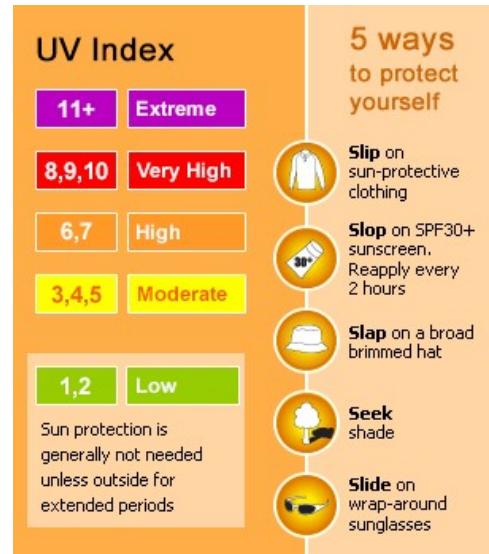


Liberman Kindergarten

Sun Protection Policy

Rationale:

Too much of the sun's UV radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Infants and toddlers up to four years of age are particularly vulnerable to UV damage due to lower levels of melanin and a thinner stratum corneum (the outermost layer of skin). UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is strongly associated with an increased risk of skin cancer later in life. Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world, with two in three Australians developing some form of skin cancer before age 70.



Aim:

Liberman Kindergarten aims to minimise the risk of over-exposure UVR (ultra -violet radiation) to children, families, staff and volunteers. We aim to educate about sun protection behaviours to assist children to be responsible for their own sun protection.

This policy is effective during terms 1,3 and 4 and when the UV radiation level is 3 and above.

Links to Quality Standards:

1.1.3 All aspects of the program, including routines, are organised in ways that maximise opportunities for each child's learning

1.2.3 Each child's agency is promoted, enabling them to make choices and decisions that influence events in their world

2.1.2 Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented

2.2.1 At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard

5.1.2 The dignity and rights of every child are maintained

6.1.3 Current information is available to families about the service and relevant community services and resources to support parenting and family wellbeing

Reviewed April 2020

To be reviewed April 2022

7.1.2 Systems are in place to manage risk and enable the effective management and operation of a quality service

Parents will:

- Be informed about the Sun Protection Policy
- Provide a hat that protects their child's face, neck and ears
 - ✓ broad brimmed, bucket style or legionnaire hats are recommended
 - ✓ Baseball caps are **not** considered suitable alternatives
 - ✓ Hats with cords not permitted
- Apply 30+ water resistant sunscreen to their child each morning
- Dress their child in sun protective clothing
 - ✓ Tops with collars or longer sleeves
 - ✓ Longer style shirts and shorts
 - ✓ Sunglasses if practical
 - ✓ **NO** singlet or midriff tops
- Be asked to sign permission for staff to re-apply 30+ water resistant sunscreen to their child or provide their own labelled sunscreen

Educators will:

- Model sun protection behaviours, wearing hats, sunscreen, appropriate clothing for outdoors including sunglasses
- Refer to the Bureau of Meteorology for information related to UV ratings and temperatures forecast
- Apply 30+ water resistant sunscreen to children 20 minutes before outside activities when the UV rating is 3+
- Take care to schedule outdoor activities outside of peak UV radiation times where possible
- Use available shaded areas for outdoor activities as much as possible
- Enforce that children, staff, visitors and volunteers wear hats when the UV levels are 3 or above (the kindergarten will keep spare hats, that will be washed after use)
- Reinforce play in shaded areas or under the verandah for children with no hat or not addressed appropriately when the UV levels are 3 or above
- Incorporate learning about sun protection into the program for children and displays to inform families
- Regularly reinforce the Sun Protection Policy and promote to families (eg via newsletters, displays)

The Director will:

- Ensure the policy is understood by all educators and is contained within the induction information for new staff
- Ensure adequate supplies of sunscreen are available for staff and children
- Ensure the policy is reviewed every three years
- Ensure adequate shade and shelters

Monitoring and review

Reviewed April 2020

To be reviewed April 2022

- All staff, including management and educators, monitor and review the effectiveness of the Sun Protection Policy and revise the policy when required (at least once every three years) by completing a policy review.

The Sun Protection Policy is available to staff, families and visitors.

Special note regarding infants

SunSmart practices consider the special needs of infants. All babies under 12 months are kept out of direct sun when UV levels are 3 or higher. Physical protection such as shade, clothing and broad-brimmed hats are the best sun protection measures. If babies are kept out of the sun or well protected from UV radiation by clothing, hats and shade, then sunscreen need only be used occasionally on very small areas of a baby's skin. The widespread use of sunscreen on babies under 6 months old is not recommended.

References

Sourced Cancer Council of South Australia – <https://www.cancer.org.au/preventing-cancer/sunprotection/sunsmart-schools/>

UV rating BOM.gov.au/uv/index.shtml