



Tintinara Preschool

Sun protection in early childhood education services

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 and whenever ultra violet (UV) radiation levels reach 3 or above. Sites must inform the school community including employees, students, parents and volunteers of the sun protection policy. Children and young people are encouraged to be responsible for their own sun protection.

Using sun protection

The school uses a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities on and off site **during Terms 1, 3 and 4**, monitoring the UV rating and daily sun protection times with children.

Clothing

Sun protective clothing is included in the school uniform/dress code and sports uniform. The clothing is cool, loose fitting and made of closely woven fabric. It includes polo shirts with elbow length sleeves and longer style shorts. Staff practice SunSmart behaviours by wearing sun protective clothing. No midriff or singlet tops are allowed.

Children who do not have appropriate sun protective clothing will be provided with spare clothing. If no spare clothing is available children will be asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

Sunscreen

Students apply their own SPF 50 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen before arriving at Preschool. Preschool will provide SPF 50 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for staff and students' use, and help children apply their sunscreen before outdoor play.

Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if remaining outdoors.

Strategies, such as a visual schedule or white board note, are in place to remind students and staff to apply sunscreen before going outdoors. Staff will actively encourage and remind children to apply and reapply sunscreen.

Families with children who have naturally very dark skin are encouraged to discuss their vitamin D requirements with their GP or pediatrician.

Hats

Children are required to wear a SunSmart hat during outdoor activities during Terms 1, 3, 4 (1 August – 30 April) and when the UV is 3 and above.

All students are required to wear the uniform bucket hat that protects their face, neck and ears whenever they are outside. Baseball or peak caps are not adequate protection and are not used at Preschool. If no spare hats are available, children are required to play in the shade or return indoors.

Staff model being SunSmart by wearing a protective broad-brimmed, bucket or legionnaire hat whenever they are outside.

Shade

Care is taken during the peak UV radiation times, and outdoor activities are scheduled outside of these times or in the shade where possible. Sports days and other outdoor events to be held in the latter or part of Term 1 earlier in the day where practical.

Students who do not have appropriate hats or clothing are provided with spare hats or clothing to be protected from the sun. Shade is always preferred when planning outdoor activities and children are encouraged to play in shaded areas. Preschoolers eat lunch inside or in the covered outdoor lunch area. Excursions are planned for earlier in the day, when the UV is 3 and above.

Curriculum

Age appropriate programs on being SunSmart and skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum for all year levels.

Sun Smart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole school community through newsletters, school homepage, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies, student and teacher activities and is included in the Preschool Parent Information pack.

Work Health Safety and Role Modelling:

For Work Health and Safety, staff are required to role model SunSmart behaviors including wearing sun protective clothing, sunscreen, appropriate hats and sunglasses and seek shade when outdoors.

Families and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures when participating in or attending outdoor activities.

The information has been extracted from the [Cancer Council SA SunSmart policy](#).

This policy will be reviewed at least every 3 years to ensure the information remains current and relevant.

Ratified by Governing Council

Date: 17/5/2022 Signature:  Review Date: 17/5/2023
