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Sun Smart Policy

Willsden Childhood Services Centre recognises the importance of protecting the skin as a major strategy in the fight against skin cancer. We are particularly fortunate to have a play area that has great shade provision. Our hot weather policy is that the children are to stay inside if the temperature that day is 36 degrees or over.

Aims

Willsden Childhood Services Centre Sun smart Policy aims to promote among children, staff and parents:

- Positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- Lifestyle practises which can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and related deaths.
- Personal responsibility for and decision making about skin protection.
- To maintain the safety and health of children in relation to the danger of exposure to the sun.
- To maintain and increase the knowledge regarding sun exposure dangers
- To prevent sunburn and over- exposure to Ultra Violet Radiation.

Plan/Actions:

All members of the Willsden Childhood services Centre, (children, staff and parents) will be encouraged to use the following skin protection strategies.

Sun protection measures are used for terms one and four.

1. No hat, No Play in term one and four
2. Wear appropriate clothing which protects the skin.
 - Wear hats at all times whilst outdoors, style must cover neck, ears, and most of their face.
 - Hats must not have cords, if so the cord needs to be removed. Hat style must be legionnaire or bucket.
 - Children and staff are encouraged to wear shirts/ tops that cover shoulders.
 - Encourage families to apply SPF 30 or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen prior to children leaving home each day.
4. During Term 2 and Term 3 children will not be expected to wear a hat.
5. If a child does not have a hat they are expected to play in the shaded areas.

Implementation

- Staff will update information regarding danger of sun exposure through staff enrolment. Newsletters and notice boards.
- Educators to avoid children playing in direct sun by setting up activities in shaded areas.
- Educators/ staff to role model sun protective behaviours at all times: wearing a hat, covered shoulders, sunglasses and sunscreen.
- To check the UV Rating go to the website <http://www.bom.gov.au/weather/uv> or to find out what the UV level is in real time go to www.arpana.gov.au/uvindex/realtimes/aus_rt.htm

- Ask students if they want to apply sunscreen. If, for medical or other reasons a family requests not to let their child put sun screen on then the centre will obtain this in writing.
- Educators/ staff to structure outdoor play activities prior to 10:30am on days where temperatures are over 36 degrees.
- Educators/ staff to encourage children to play in shaded areas.
- Staff will explain to children regarding the need to use hats, sunscreen etc.
- Children who need to avoid outdoor play due to medical reasons will have indoor play organised for them.

Learning about skin protection

- Staff will model appropriate Sun smart strategies at all times.
- Information regarding sun protection will regularly be a newsletter item.
- Skin cancer prevention will be a part of our learning curriculum.
- Information and resources will be kept up to date through contact with the Cancer Council.

This policy is in line with the ACECQA regulations (NQS 2.3 regulation 168 (2) a, ii and related key regulation 114 and DECD policy.

Created: January 2016

Review date: January 2018

Approved by Governing Council:

Chairperson

December 2016