



**Clarence Park**  
Community Kindergarten

## Sun Protection Policy

### We Believe

At Clarence Park Community Kindergarten, we believe that it is important to ensure that children, staff and visitors are protected from over exposure to harmful UV radiation from the sun, and have adequate UV exposure for Vitamin D. We follow the Cancer Council's SunSmart recommendations for sun protection in Early Childhood Centres and promote positive attitudes and learning about skin protection.

### Objectives

This Sun Protection policy has been developed to:

- Encourage children, staff and visitors, to use a combination of sun protection measures whenever UV Index levels reach 3 and above, and in any event in Terms 1, 3 and 4 (or 1 August to 30 April)
- Work towards a safe outdoor environment that provides shade for children, staff and visitors at appropriate times
- Assist children to be responsible for their own sun protection

### Implementation

This policy is in place whenever UV Index levels reach 3 and above, and in any event in Terms 1, 3 and 4 (or 1 August to 30 April). Each day the educators and children will monitor the UV Alert to find out daily local sun protection times to assist with the implementation of this policy. A UV chart will be used with the children and learning about sun safety is incorporated into our curriculum including using resources from the Cancer Council.

#### Hats and Clothing

- All children are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears, i.e., legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats. DfE guidelines require hats to have no chin straps, cords, drawstring or toggles. Baseball or peak caps are not considered a suitable alternative.
- When outside, children are required to wear loose fitting clothing that covers shoulders and as much skin as possible. Clothing made from cool, closely woven fabric is recommended. Tops with collars and elbow length sleeves, and longer style shorts and skirts are best.
- Singlet/sleeveless tops are not acceptable items of SunSmart clothing. If a child is wearing a singlet top/dress we will provide them with a t-shirt/shirt to wear over the top when outdoors.
- Cancer Council suggest children wear sunglasses with an Eye Protection Factor (EPF) of 10 and meet Australian Standard AS/NZS 1067.1:2016 where practical

#### Sunscreen

- Parents are asked to apply sunscreen before or on arrival at kindergarten
- SPF 30 or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is available for staff and children's use.
- Sunscreen is re-applied at morning snack time and again prior to the children eating lunch.
- Children are encouraged to apply the sunscreen themselves under the supervision of staff.
- Sunscreen is kept in a central location which is cool and shaded, expiry dates are checked.

#### Shade and outdoor activities

- The availability of shade, and time of day, is considered when planning excursions and all other outdoor activities.
- Outdoor activities will be planned in shaded areas of the Kindergarten during high UV times.
- Children are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside.
- Children who do not have appropriate hats or outdoor clothing are asked to play under the veranda, in the sandpit or inside. On occasion, a spare hat will be offered.
- On hot weather days, additional learning opportunities will be set up inside
- A shade audit is conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade.



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## Implementation (cont)

### Role Modelling

Staff, families and visitors are important, positive role models in demonstrating Sun Smart behaviour when attending kindergarten by:

- Wearing a Sun Smart hat
- Applying SPF30+ sunscreen
- Wearing Sun Smart clothing including sunglasses
- Using and promoting shade

### Food and drink

- It is encouraged for children's food to be placed in the fridge in the veranda area upon arrival at kindergarten.
- Children are encouraged to drink water and fluids frequently and they have access at all times to clean, cool water to refill personal drink bottles. In hot weather, the location of drink bottles will be monitored to ensure the water remains cool and easily accessible to children.

## Further information for families

When enrolling their child, families are:

- Informed of our Sun Protection policy
- Asked to provide a suitable hat for their child
- Asked to provide their child with suitable outdoor clothing that is cool and covers as much skin as possible (i.e., covering the shoulders, chest, upper arms and legs)
- Asked to sign permission for staff to apply the Kindergarten's sunscreen to their child. If families wish to provide their own sunscreen a separate medical form must be completed.
- Families and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures (sun protective clothing and hats, shade, sunglasses and sunscreen) when participating in or attending outdoor activities at Kindergarten or on excursions.

We encourage families to speak with us at any time about concerns they may have.

**The Clarence Park Community Kindergarten's sun protection policy will be shared with all new staff and families and is available to view in the Kindergarten's Policies Folder and on the Kindergarten's website.**

Endorsed and ratified by Governing Council parents and staff at Governing Council