

## SUN SAFE POLICY

30/09/2016

### Policy Statement

We have an obligation and duty of care under the Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act to ensure a high level of sun protection to all children and adults accessing Kindergarten programs at high risk times of the year. All staff, caregivers, children and families have a shared responsibility to support sun protection as a high priority.

### Rationale

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Skin damage is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun (ultraviolet radiation). The danger period for UV radiation is between 10am and 2 pm and during “Daylight Savings” between 11am and 3pm when UV levels are 3 and above. Damage can still occur with prolonged exposure outside of these hours and without direct sunlight.

### Kindergarten Curriculum

The program includes :

- Sun protection awareness
- Sun Safe policy
- Healthy outside play for vitamin D when UV levels are low (below 3)
- Personal responsibility for decision making about sun protection.

### Policy Requirement

#### **Kindergarten**

- Sun Safe policy is in place during Terms 1,2,3 and 4 of the kindergarten year.
- All children and staff are required to wear a broad brimmed (5 to 6 cm brim) or legionnaire hat outside at all times. SPF 50+ broad spectrum sunscreen will be applied to kindergarten children staying for full days.
- Children are directed to play in shaded areas on days of high temperatures as determined by the Teacher in charge.
- Staff will act as positive role models by moving into shaded areas, wearing appropriate hats and clothing.
- Children who do not have appropriate hats will play in safe areas away from sun.

## Parents

- Playgroup – Babies should be kept out of the direct sunlight and always protected by shade, clothing, hats and sunscreen.
- Parents are asked to dress their children in appropriate protective clothing including tops with sleeves.
- Parents are asked to apply sunscreen to children before arrival at the Kindergarten.

## References

Cancer Council South Australia  
Prospect Kindergarten Hot Weather Policy  
National Quality Standards  
Child and Youth Health  
[www.decd.sa.gov.au/policy/pages/OSPP/policy\\_index](http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/policy/pages/OSPP/policy_index)

## Endorsed by Staff and Governing Council:

Director Betty Elsworthy

Date 24.1.17