

SUN PROTECTION AND CLOTHING POLICY

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1 NQS

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| QA2 | 2.1.1 | Each child's wellbeing and comfort is provided for, including appropriate opportunities to meet each child's need for sleep, rest and relaxation. |
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2 Aim

To ensure that our services implement appropriate and culturally aware clothing and sun safety practices. These practices will ensure that children, families and educators are effectively engaging in practices that promote children's health and wellbeing.

3 Related Policies

The Kids' Uni Policies and Procedures apply to Kids' Uni North, Kids' Uni South, Kids Uni CBD, Kids Uni iC – Preschool, Kids Uni iC – OOSH.

Physical Environment Policy (CHI-ADM-POL-046)

4 Who is affected by this Policy?

Children, Staff, Families, Management

5 Children's Clothing

- 5.1 Children should be clothed in an appropriate manner which will allow them to explore and play freely and not restrict them using equipment while at play.
- 5.2 Clothing should also allow easy access for toileting i.e. elasticised trousers, track pants – rather than buttons, zips, belts etc.
- 5.3 Children will be encouraged by educators to use aprons for messy play and art experiences to protect their clothing. For this reason it is important to not send the children in their best clothes.
- 5.4 Children should be appropriately protected from the sun during outdoor play - please refer to sun safety procedures below for further suggestions on hats and clothing.
- 5.5 Children's clothing should accommodate weather conditions. i.e. be loose and cool in summer to prevent overheating and warm enough for cold weather – including outdoor play. At all times educators will monitor children to ensure they are appropriately dressed for all weather, play experiences, rest and sleep routines.
- 5.6 Children should have appropriate footwear that enables them to play comfortably and not cause safety concerns. i.e. thongs, clogs or backless shoes have a trip factor and do not allow children to use equipment safely.
- 5.7 Comfortable and non-restrictive clothing is important at sleep time to promote your child's comfort at this time of the day.
- 5.8 Clean and appropriate spare clothing will be made available to children should it be needed.
- 5.9 All clothing and belongings must be clearly labelled with the child's name.
- 5.10 Educators will respect cultural difference and preferences in clothing.
- 5.11 Educators will communicate with families about appropriate clothing.
- 5.12 When outdoors, educators and children will wear sun safe clothing that covers as much of the skin (especially the shoulders, back and stomach) as possible. This includes wearing:
 - i. Loose fitting shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered neckline.
 - ii. Longer style skirts, shorts and trousers.

- 5.13 Children who are not wearing sun safe clothing can be provided with spare clothing or will be encouraged to play in the shade.
- 5.14 Midriff, crop or singlet tops do not provide enough sun protection and therefore are not recommended.

6 Sun Protection

- 6.1 For outdoor activities the service will use a combination of sun protection measures whenever **UV Index levels reach 3 and above**. This will include:
 - i. From October to March between 11am and 3pm, outdoor activities should be minimised. Minimising outdoor activities includes reducing both the number of times (frequency) and the length of time (duration) children are outside.
 - ii. From April to September outdoor activity can take place at any time. Between the hours of 10am and 2pm, Educators also need to be aware that if the UV factor reaches 3 and above, they will need to consider the frequency and duration of their time in the outdoor environments.
 - iii. Personal sun safety practices such as hats, sunscreen, and sun safe clothing will be implemented throughout the year.
- 6.2 All sun protection measures (including recommended outdoor times, shade, hat, clothing and sunscreen) will be considered when planning excursions and incursions.

7 Hats

- 7.1 Educators and children are required to wear sun safe hats that protect their face, neck and ears. A sun safe hat is:
 - i. Legionnaire hat.
 - ii. Bucket hat with a deep crown and brim size of at least 5cm (adults 6cm).
 - iii. Broad brimmed hat with a brim size of at least 6cm (adults 7.5cm).
- 7.2 Families are encouraged to assist staff during the morning to put hats on children. Whilst on excursion, children and staff will wear hats.

8 Sunscreen

- 8.1 Families will be encouraged to apply sunscreen to children on arrival. All educators and children will apply SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors.
- 8.2 Sunscreen is stored in a cool, dry place and the use-by-date monitored. Safety Data Sheets are available for this product.
- 8.3 Educators to check children for allergies to sunscreen, in which case, families to provide sunscreen that can be used on their child. Safety Data Sheets will be sought and kept available.

9 Babies

- 9.1 Babies under 12 months will not be exposed to direct sunlight and are to remain in dense shade when outside. They will wear sun safe hats and clothing and small amounts of SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen may be applied to their exposed skin.

10 Role Modelling

- 10.1 Educators will act as role models and demonstrate sun safe behaviour by:
- Wearing a sun safe hat (see Hats).
 - Wearing sun safe clothing (see Clothing).
 - Applying SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors.
 - Using and promoting shade.
 - Wearing sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067:2003 (optional).
- 10.2 Families and visitors are encouraged to role model positive sun safe behaviour.

11 Education and Information

Sun protection will be incorporated regularly into learning programs. Sun protection information will be promoted to educators, families and visitors. Further information is available from the Cancer Council website <https://www.cancercouncil.com.au/35811/cancer-prevention/sun-protection/sunsmart-program-for-childcare-services/sunsmart-resources-childcare-services/why-become-a-sunsmart-service/#Sunscreen>

12 Sources

National Quality Standard
Work Health and Safety Regulation 2011
Cancer Council

13 Review

This policy will be reviewed every 3 years and the review will include Management, Employees, Families and Interested Parties.

14 Version Control Table

| Version Control | Date Released | Next Review | Approved By | Amendment |
|-----------------|---------------|-------------|---------------------------------------|--|
| 1 | Jul 2018 | Jul 2021 | K.Grose – Children's services Manager | Combined Sun safety and Clothing Policy. |
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