



SUN PROTECTION POLICY

Unley Community Childcare Centre has a duty of care to ensure that all employees, children and visitors who attend the centre are provided with a high level of sun protection during the hours of the services operation.

Strategy

As members of the SunSmart program this policy has been developed with the latest information from SunSmart and the Cancer Council in mind, this is to ensure all children, employees and visitors attending the centre are adequately protected from the sun to prevent skin damage caused by overexposure to UV rays.

Employees will access the daily sun protection times via the SunSmart app to assist with implementing this policy. The daily sun protection times will be displayed daily during the year for families to access on the notice board located at the front of the building and will help to determine when sun protection measures are required and when it is safe for children to play outside.

Sun Protection

Children, employees, students and visitors will be required to wear an appropriate sun smart hat and sun smart clothing during outdoor activities from the 1st of August to the 30th of April and on additional days when the UV rating is 3 or above. The Australian Competition and Consumer Commission (ACCC) issued voluntary guidelines for suppliers in June 2011 for the removal of cords, drawstrings, and toggles from the manufacturing of children's clothing and hats. The guidance provided by the ACCC does not represent a standard or mandatory requirement for clothing or hat manufacturers and suppliers. However, to reduce the risk of potential injury or harm we have decided to implement a policy that does not allow children to wear a hat with a drawstring, cord or ribbon which is placed under the child's neck.

A slouch bucket hat with the centre name and logo will be provided to all educators and children for use whilst at the centre, however families have the option to supply their own broad brim, slouch or legionnaire style hat for their child providing they have no cords, toggles, or drawstrings. All hats will be washed weekly on a rotating basis, beanie style hats are welcome from the 1st of May until the 31st of July. All families will be charged a yearly hat fee of \$10 to help with costs of weekly laundering.

Broad Spectrum Sunscreen (SPF 30+ and waterproof) will be provided by the centre for all children. Sunscreen must be applied 20 minutes prior to going outdoors when the UV is 3 or above and be reapplied every 2 hours when engaging in outdoor play, sunscreen does not need to be applied when the UV is below 3. Families are asked to apply sunscreen at home in the mornings, so that the children can go straight outside to play on arrival and not have to wait. Employees will complete the Unley Community Child Care's sunscreen sheet which requires employees to record, the child's name, date, and time of application, this requires an initial from the employee who applied the sunscreen.

Parents will need to provide sunscreen only where a particular brand is required for children with sensitive skin or allergy. Sunscreens that are provided by the family will need to have

an accompanying doctor’s note explaining the reason why the child must have the supplied sunscreen and a chemist label with the child’s name clearly printed on the product. The supplied sunscreen must be kept at the centre and placed into the sunscreen box located in their child’s room.

Babies

Babies under 12 months of age will not be exposed to direct sun when the UV is 3 and above. The Unley Community Childcare Centre will ensure children of this age play in shaded areas. For children under 12 months of age educators will ensure they are protected from the sun by wearing hats, long sleeve shirts and pants and shade. Sunscreen will be applied to small areas of exposed skin, for infants 6 months and older.

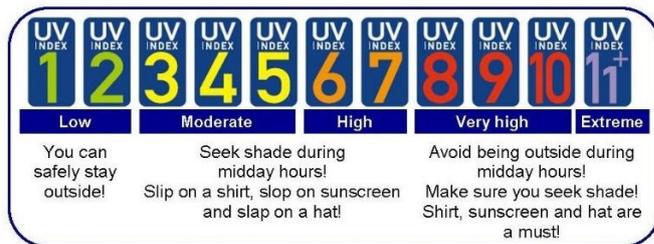
Clothing

Children, educators, and visitors will be required to wear clothing and shoes that provide maximum skin coverage - long sleeved shirts are recommended. Clothing such as sundresses, singlets, thongs and crocs are not acceptable for outdoor play unless worn with sun safe clothing underneath. Children without appropriate clothing and hats will be required to play in the shade, or an area protected from the sun.

Shade

Extra care is taken during peak times of the day when the UV is highest, and children will be encouraged to play in the shade by setting up experiences in these areas and will be outside for shorter lengths of time.

Children can freely play outside when the UV is between 1-7, when the UV is between 8-10 children must remain inside between 11am and 2pm and when the UV is 11 or above the children are to remain inside.



SunSmart (2020)

The centre’s long term goals will include provision for shade cover in the best interests of the children and educators. The centre’s existing outdoor shade cloth and veranda’s provide 90% UV protection. Management and educators will annually evaluate best practice on sun protection for all.

Education

Educators will incorporate age-appropriate sun safety discussions and experiences as part of the children’s program, and it will be discussed with educators during staff meetings. Information on sun protection will be provided to families attending the centre throughout

the year through displays and newsletters. New employees and families are informed of the centre's sun protection policy through the induction process.

Employee WHS and role modelling

As part of WHS UV risk controls and role modelling, employees will wear sun protective clothing, hats and sunscreen, sunglasses are optional, and where possible, seek shade when outdoors. Visitors and parents will also be encouraged to role model sun smart practices when visiting the centre.

Sources:

Cancer Council SA

SunSmart Early Childhood Program – www.sunsmart.org.au

Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (ACECQA) www.acecqa.gov.au

Links To:

WHS Policy

Clothing and Comfort Policy

Parent handbook 2021

Staff handbook 2021

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD (NQS)

QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY		
2.1	Health	Each child's health and physical activity is supported and promoted
2.1.1	Wellbeing and comfort	Each child's wellbeing and comfort is provided for, including appropriate opportunities to meet each child's needs for sleep, rest and relaxation
2.1.3	Healthy lifestyle	Healthy eating and physical activity are promoted and appropriate for each child
2.2	Safety	Each child is protected
2.2.1	Supervision	At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard
QUALITY AREA 3: PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT		
3.1.1	Fit for Purpose	Outdoor and indoor spaces, buildings, fixtures and fittings are suitable for their purpose, including supporting the access of every child

EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL LAW

167	Protection from harm and hazards
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EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL REGULATIONS	
100	Risk assessment must be conducted before excursions
113	Outdoor space natural environment
114	Outdoor space shade
168	Education and care service must have policies and procedures
168 (2)(a)(ii)	Sun Protection

Date Reviewed: September 2021

Next Review Date: September 2022

Policy Created	Feb 2016
Revision Date	Summary of Changes
29/8/18	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Changes to months required to wear hats and sunscreen to meet best practices from Cancer Council SA • Included “babies” section as per Cancer Council SA’s SunSmart guidelines • Changes to requirements for sunscreen brought in from home
August 2019	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated in line with current SunSmart recommendations from cancer council SA
August 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated in line with current SunSmart recommendations from cancer council SA
Feb 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Removed families supplying hats from home and included supply of centre hats • Made changes in relation to toggles, cords and drawstrings not being safe • Including weekly washing rotation for hats • Included UV ratings chart • Included hat fee
April 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Amended to include that sunscreens supplied from home must have a chemist label and accompanying doctors letter
July 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Reviewed in Line with Cancer Cancel SA policy checklist in preparation for renewing Sun Smart Status
September 2021	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Updated to reflect current practice and SunSmart recommendations Added that sunscreen is to applied when the uv is 3 or above, no sunscreen needed when the uv is below 3. Formatting and phrasing