

Sun Safe Policy

Purpose

The purpose of this policy is to protect all children and staff from the harmful effects of ultraviolet (UV) radiation. By promoting sun safety, our OSHC Service supports the health and wellbeing of every child while fostering a culture of awareness and responsibility around sun protection.

Scope

This policy applies to all children, families, staff, management, and visitors of the OSHC Service. It ensures that outdoor environments provide adequate shade and that appropriate sun protection measures are in place to minimise UV exposure during all service activities, both on-site and off-site.

Implementation

Our OSHC Service follows the National SunSmart Program to guide sun safety practices and maintain the health and safety of children at all times. This policy applies to every outdoor activity, including play, excursions, and water-based activities, ensuring children are supported in a safe and responsive environment. Educators plan and implement strategies that consider the age, abilities, and needs of each child while promoting independence and engagement with the environment.

Monitoring UV Levels

Sun protection is required when UV levels reach three or above. The service monitors UV levels daily using resources such as the Bureau of Meteorology website and our OWNA app. Educators use this information to plan outdoor activities and determine when sun protection measures need to be implemented to reduce the risk of harm.

Outdoor Activities

Sun protection measures are applied consistently during outdoor activities when UV levels are forecast to reach three or higher. Educators carefully plan these activities to ensure children are supported in a safe manner while still being able to explore, engage, and enjoy learning in the outdoor environment. Planning considers the use of shaded areas and the combination of sun protection strategies to provide comprehensive safety for all children.

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Shade

Shaded areas are prioritised for all outdoor play experiences. Children who do not have appropriate hats or sun-safe clothing are encouraged to remain in shaded areas to ensure their protection. Even when playing under natural or portable shade, children are required to wear hats, protective clothing, and sunscreen, reinforcing sun-safe habits and consistent health practices.

Hats and Clothing

Children are encouraged to wear hats that provide appropriate sun protection. In instances where a child does not have a sun-safe hat, the service will provide a spare hat if available, or the child will be directed to a shaded area. Sun-safe clothing is recommended to cover as much skin as possible, including the shoulders, back, and stomach. If a child is not wearing sun-safe clothing, educators will offer spare clothing or guide the child to shaded areas, ensuring safety without restricting participation in outdoor activities.

Sunscreen

All children and staff are supported to apply SPF30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen before going outdoors. For children with allergies or sensitivities to sunscreen, parents are asked to provide an alternative or children are encouraged to play in shaded areas. Any allergies or sensitivities must be recorded in writing on the child's enrolment record. Educators ensure that children wear appropriate footwear during outdoor play to further support safety.

Review

This policy is reviewed regularly to ensure it reflects current legislation, best practice, and the guidance of the National SunSmart Program. The policy supports our commitment to the My Time Our Place Framework, the ECA Code of Ethics, the National Law, the National Regulations, and the National Quality Standard 2025, ensuring that children enjoy a safe and engaging learning environment.



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Review

Date:	Changes:	Reviewed by:
12/01/2021	New policy (All updated)	Charmayne Nathan
07/08/2024	Reviewed, No changes	Charmayne Nathan
17/09/25	Policy was updated, information was condensed.	Charmayne Nathan