



## Sun Protection Policy

The Rumpus Room Children's Centre is a Child Safe Organisation.

### **Aims:**

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure that all children attending our Centre are protected, as much as possible, from skin damage caused by the sun

### **Explanation:**

Childcare services have a responsibility and opportunity to reduce children's risk and to help establish effective long-term behaviours. This sun protection policy that is based on the latest research and best practice principles, which will help our service achieve this.

### **Implementation:**

- 1) Sun protection messages are incorporated into the learning program for children.
- 2) Staff should implement sun protection measures on both sunny and cloudy days when the sun's rays can penetrate and damage the skin.
- 3) Staff should ensure that the children's needs for fluids/water are adequately provided for.
- 4) Throughout the year and in particular during the warmer months when the ultraviolet radiation is strongest, all children attending the Centre are to bring and wear sun-safe hats, preferably broad-brimmed, bucket or legionnaires type. Baseball caps and sun visors are not recommended. The Centre will provide hats for children forgetting to bring in a hat. These hats will be washed at the end of the day then returned for use by other children. When returning inside from outdoor play all hats should be placed in lockers.
- 5) Children are required to wear sun-safe clothing that covers as much skin as possible. For example, loose-fitting shirts with sleeves and covered necklines, and longer-style skirts, shorts and trousers. Midriff, crop or singlet tops are not recommended.



- 6) The Centre will provide water-resistant SPF30+ broad spectrum sunscreen, which will be applied to all children by the staff before they go outside.
- 7) Children under 12 months of age will not be exposed to direct sunlight. Staff will ensure that babies remain in dense shade when outside. Care will be taken to avoid babies' exposure to indirect or reflected UV radiation when they are in shaded areas by using SunSmart clothing and a hat, and placing them in the middle of the shade. SPF30+, broad-spectrum and water-resistant sunscreen can be used on small areas of skin not covered by clothing (eg, feet and hands).
- 8) Parents should advise the staff if their child is allergic to the sunscreen or is not to have sunscreen applied.
- 9) From October to March, the service will minimise outdoor activity between 11am and 3pm with sun protection required at all times when outside. From April to September, outdoor activity can take place at any time during the day with sun protection required between 10am and 2pm (EST), except in June and July when the UV Index is mostly below 3. The UV rating can be monitored on the Cancer Council SunSmart App/website and shall help guide required practice.
- 10) The centre has a covered veranda and shade sails over the sand pit.
- 11) Staff, volunteers, students and parents are also required to wear hats and SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen whilst outdoors and act as role models in their demonstration of sun-safe behaviour. To assist in this sun protection information is available to staff, families and visitors in the front foyer.
- 12) Sun protection measures will be considered when planning excursions

This policy links to the following NQS:

National Quality Standards 2.3.2, 3.1.1

See Appendix 1-National Law (section) and National Regulations (regulation)