



Sun Safety Policy

National Quality Standard 2.3.2
Regulation 168(2)(a)

Rationale

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Research has indicated that young children and babies have sensitive skin that places them at particular risk of sunburn and skin damage. Exposure during the first 15 years of life can greatly increase the risk of developing skin cancer in later life. Early Childhood Services play a major role in minimising a child's UV exposure as children attend during times when UV radiation levels are highest.

1. TITLE

Sun Safety Policy

2. PURPOSE

To protect all children and staff from the harmful effects of ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun

3. SCOPE

This policy applies to children, families, staff, management and visitors of The Nest

4. OBJECTIVES

1. To ensure that all children, staff and families are protected from skin damage caused by harmful ultra violet sunrays.
2. To raise awareness and promote positive attitudes towards skin protection with children, staff and children.
3. To promote lifestyle practices that help reduce the incidence of skin damage.
4. To ensure staff practices consider weather conditions when setting up learning spaces and modifying programs.
5. To promote personal responsibility and decision making about skin protection.

5. DETAILS

5.1. Strategies for minimising heat related stress and UV exposure during hot weather.

1. Educators will monitor and gauge the outside temperature and bring the children, and themselves, into an air conditioned building when the outdoor temperature is high or the conditions are extreme.
2. Children are encouraged to drink water regularly throughout the day.
3. The availability of shade is considered when planning outdoor activities and extra care is taken during the peak UV radiation times.
4. Management makes sure there is a sufficient number of shelters and trees providing shade in the outdoor area.

5.2 Hats and clothing.

1. All children and staff **MUST** wear a hat that protects their face, neck and ear (i.e. legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats) outside during Term 1 and 4 (October – April).
2. Suitable 'spare' hats will be provided by The Nest, to ensure that no child is excluded from participating in the outside learning environment. They will be laundered after use.
3. When outdoors, staff and children will wear sun safe clothing that covers as much of the skin (especially the shoulders, back and stomach) as possible. Children who are not wearing sun safe clothing can be provided with spare clothing.

5.3 Sunscreen

1. SPF 30+ broad spectrum Sunscreen will be provided for children as required.
2. Nest children will be encouraged to apply their own sunscreen with adult supervision.
3. On enrolment families will complete and sign the permission form to apply sunscreen for their child. Families are asked to provide their child with their own sunscreen in the case of allergies to sunscreen provided by The Nest.

5.3 Sunglasses (optional)

Children and staff are encouraged to wear close fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067.1:2016 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible>

5.4 Staff WHS and Role Modelling

Families and visitors are expected to act as positive role models and as part of WHS UV risk controls when the UV is 3 and above use a combination of sun protection measures (sun protective clothing and hats, shade, sunglasses and sunscreen) when attending The Nest.

5.5 Education and Information

Sun protection will be incorporated regularly into learning programs and sun protection information will be promoted to staff, families and visitors.

6. MONITORING, EVALUATION AND REVIEW

Implementation: All Educators

Monitoring: Dan Jarrad, Principal

Policy Reviewed: July 2021

7. ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

Cancer Council Australia

For additional information available: <http://cancer.org.au/>