



SLIP



SLOP



SLAP



SEEK



SLIDE



POLICY STATEMENT

As a service, this policy was developed in conjunction with Cancer Council SA, to provide a SunSmart service that provides protection plans for terms 1, 3 & 4. This policy has been established to provide the children and young people at our service with a safe environment, providing them with hats, sunscreen and shade protection to support their learning and opportunities for play. We act in the best interests of our children to reflect our service philosophy and provide the children with opportunities to be inquisitive and confident learners in a SunSmart environment, utilising opportunities to teach children the importance of good sun protection habits from an early age to reduce their risk.

BACKGROUND

The Education and Care Services National Regulations requires us to have in place policies and procedures in relation to sun protection at our service. We have established SunSmart policies and procedures that act in line with Cancer Council SA's information and practices to allow all children and young people to learn about how to be SunSafe and put this learning into practice whilst they are at attendance in our service. We believe that we are acting in the best interests of the children by protecting them from potentially harmful UV rays through seeking shade, supplying hats that are either broad brimmed, bucket or legionnaire and offering sunscreen that is SPF50 broad spectrum and water resistant at our service.

LEGISLATIVE REQUIREMENTS

Regulation	Description	Implementation
100	Risk assessment must be conducted before an excursion	We take appropriate steps to minimise the risk of children by completing a risk assessment for each excursion to provide the best quality of care.
113	Outdoor space - natural environment	The outdoor environment we have access to as part of our service includes gardens, dirt patches, bark areas, shady trees, grass and plants. We encourage children to engage with their natural environment through everyday practices and structured activities.
114	Outdoor space - shade	We provide adequate shading for children and young people at our service with shade cloths over playgrounds, shady trees to sit under and solid roofs over seating areas.
167	Offence relating to protection of children from harm and hazards	Reasonable and appropriate risk assessments and hazard checks are conducted by educators before each session to protect children from harm and hazards.
168	Education and care services must have policies and procedures	The service has policies and procedures that reflect the needs of the service. These are reviewed as necessary.
170	Policies and procedures to be followed	Policies and procedures created by the service are followed by all educators, at all times.
171	Policies and procedures to be kept available	Policies and procedures are kept available to all educators and families, and are located on the TR 9 sign out bench and on the Mawson Lakes School website.

172	Notification of change to policies and procedures	Appropriate authorities and governing bodies are notified of any change to policies and procedures.
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POLICY

The Mawson Lakes School OSHC adheres to the Department for Education's SunSmart protection plan in terms 1, 3 and 4, or whenever UV radiation levels reach 3 or above. A balance of ultraviolet UV radiation exposure is important to health. This protection policy encourages children and educators to use sun protection measures- including responsible timing, proper clothing, sunscreen and shade, in working towards a safe outdoor environment.

HOW POLICY WILL BE IMPLEMENTED

Educators will check the daily UV through the free SunSmart Global UV app, SunSmart widget, or the Bureau of Meteorology app to support the implementation of sun protection at the service. Peak UV times of the day are when the UV is highest in the day and are different from local sun protection times which change daily issued by the Bureau of Meteorology. For an implementation guide peak UV times of the day are 11:00am - 3:00pm during daylight savings and 10:00am - 2:00pm during non-daylight savings.

Sun protection is included in service participation and risk management and assessments for all outdoor activities and experiences including excursions where all sun protection practices are planned, organised, understood and available.

Sun protection policy, procedures, requirements and updates are made available to educators, families and visitors. All information and resources are accessible and communicated regularly to families. All families are informed of the sun protection policy including appropriate hat, clothing, and sunscreen requirements on enrolling their child in the service or vacation care.

BEFORE SCHOOL CARE

Sun protection is not required as the UV radiation levels don't reach above 3 during this time.

AFTER SCHOOL CARE

Sun protection is required during terms 1, 3 and 4, and whenever the UV is 3 and above. Educators display the UV on the two whiteboards located under the veranda and on W5 deck.

VACATION CARE

Sun protection is required for all outdoor experiences from 1 August to 30 April and whenever the UV is 3 and above at other times.

CLOTHING

- For best protection during the daily sun protection times when the UV is 3 and above, use all five SunSmart measures
- When attending OSHC, we ask children to wear clothing that covers as much skin as possible. The best styles are tops with collars, and sleeves of at least three quarter length (elbow-length) and pants or skirts of at least three-quarter length (below the knee). Singlet or midriff tops are not recommended.
- Rash tops and shirts required for outdoor swimming although all excursions to pools are indoors
- Families will be advised on enrolment of the requirement to dress students in appropriate sun protective clothing
- Educators will role model appropriate protective clothing when outdoors
- Educators and children are encouraged to wear close fitting wrap around sunglasses that cover as much of the eye area as possible and comply with Australian Standards AS1067

SUNSCREEN

- SPF 50 broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen is available for educators and children's use
- Time is provided to apply sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors and re-applied every two hours if remaining outdoors even if the sunscreen is four hours water resistant.
- Educators display the UV on the two whiteboards located under the veranda and on W5 deck
- Families with children and young people who are concerned about vitamin D requirements are encouraged to speak to their GP or pediatrician
- Where children have allergies or sensitivity to the sunscreen, parents are asked to provide an alternative sunscreen, or the child encouraged to play in the shade
- Families are encouraged to apply sunscreen to their children before arriving at OSHC in Vacation Care
- Sunscreen is always re-applied immediately after perspiring, water based activities, towel drying or being washed off
- All sunscreen is stored in a cool, dry place and the expiry dates are monitored

HATS

- If a child does not have a hat, OSHC will supply one, all hats are washed after each wear
- All children are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears e.g. legionnaire, broad brimmed or bucket hats, whenever they are outside. Baseball or peak caps are not acceptable and therefore not recommended

SEEK SHADE

- For the best protection during the day sun protection times when the UV level is 3 and above, use all five SunSmart measures:
 - Slip on clothing
 - Slop on SPF50 broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen
 - Slap on a broad brimmed hat
 - Seek shade
 - Slide on sunglasses
- A shade 'audit' is conducted to determine the current availability and quality of shade
- OSHC educators ensure there is a sufficient number of shelters, portable shade structures and trees providing shade in the outdoor areas
- The availability of shade is considered when planning excursions and all other outdoor experiences
- Where possible during vacation care, outdoor experiences are scheduled outside of the peak UV radiation times of the day. A combination of skin protection measures are considered when planning outdoor events e.g. excursions and water based activities
- Children are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside
- Children who do not have appropriate hats or clothing are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun, children will also be able to play inside
- Plant trees for the future and seek funding for additional shade
- If there is inadequate shade for the children to play outside, children will be allowed to play indoors
- We encourage playing in shaded areas

EDUCATORS WH&S AND ROLE-MODELLING

Sun safety is everyone's responsibility. By being role models ourselves and leading the way with our own sun safety, we can inspire our children to be SunSmart when they step outside.

As part of WH&S UV risk controls and role modelling, when the UV is 3 and above educators will:

- Educators will check the daily UV and support the implementation of sun protection at the service through SunSmart Global UV app
- Wear sun protective hats, clothing and sunglasses when outside
- Apply SPF 50 broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen
- Seek shade whenever possible
- Volunteers and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures e.g. sun protective clothing and hats, sunglasses, sunscreen and shade, when attending activities

EDUCATION

- Sun protection is incorporated into educational experiences to support children's wellbeing, learning and development
- Children are provided with opportunities to promote and model sun protection measures to the whole school community, including taking leadership roles in managing sun protection e.g accessing daily UV levels and sun protection times, hat reminders and management of sunscreen
- Children understand why sun safety is important and learn how to take effective sun protection actions
- The sun protection policy is reinforced through educators and children's experiences and our learning displays
- Sunsmart website resources and intentional teaching opportunities for children to explore
- Educators and families are regularly provided with information on sun protection through newsletters, noticeboards, Parent App, Skoolbag and the Mawson Lakes School website
- Our sunprotection applies to all service experiences on and off site

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARDS

The following quality areas link to Sun Protection Policy & Procedure

QUALITY AREA 1 - EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM & PRACTICE		
Concept		Descriptor
1.1	Program	The educational program enhances each child's learning and development.
1.1.3	Program learning opportunities	All aspects of the program, including routines, are organised in ways that maximise opportunities for each child's learning.
1.2.1	Intentional teaching	Educators are deliberate, purposeful, and thoughtful in their decisions and actions.
1.2.2	Responsive teaching and scaffolding	Educators respond to children's idea and play and extend children's learning through open-ended questions, interactions and feedback.
1.2.3	Child directed learning	Each child's agency is promoted, enabling them to make choices and decisions that influence events and their world.
QUALITY AREA 2 - CHILDREN'S HEALTH & SAFETY		

Concept		Descriptor
2.1	Health	Each child's health and physical activity is supported and promoted.
2.1.2	Health practices and procedures	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
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.
2.2.2	Incident and emergency management	Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented.
2.2.3	Child protection	Management, educators, and staff are aware of their roles and responsibilities to identify and respond to every child at risk of abuse or neglect.
QUALITY AREA 3 - PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENTS		
3.1.2	Upkeep	Premises, furniture, and equipment are safe, clean and well maintained.
QUALITY AREA 5 - RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHILDREN		
5.1.2	Dignity and rights of the child	The dignity and rights of every child are maintained.
5.2.2	Self-regulation	Each child is supported to regulate their own behaviour, respond appropriately to the behaviour of others and communicate effectively to resolve conflicts.
QUALITY AREA 6 - COLLABORATIVE PARTNERSHIPS WITH FAMILIES AND COMMUNITIES		
6.1.2	Parents views are respected	The expertise, culture, values and beliefs of families are respected, and families share in decision-making about their child's learning and wellbeing.
6.2.1	Transitions	Continuity of learning and transitions for each child are supported by sharing information and clarifying responsibilities.
QUALITY AREA 7 - GOVERNANCE AND LEADERSHIP		
7.1.2	Management systems	Systems are in place to manage risk and enable the effective management and operation of a quality service.

7.1.3	Roles and responsibilities	Roles and responsibilities are clearly defined, and understood, and support effective decision-making and operation of the service.
7.2.1	Continuous improvements	There is an effective self-assessment and quality improvement process in place.

MY TIME OUR PLACE

The sun protection procedure links to the following learning outcomes in the “My Time Our Place” learning framework:

- **Learning Outcome 1** - Children and young people have a strong sense of identity
- **Learning Outcome 2** - Children and young people are connected with and contribute to their world
- **Learning Outcome 3** - Children and young people have a strong sense of well-being
- **Learning Outcome 4** - Children and young people are confident and involved learners
- **Learning Outcome 5** - Children and young people are effective communicators

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Roles	Responsibilities
Director	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure that obligations under the Education and Care Service National Law and National Regulations are met • Take reasonable steps to ensure that the director and educators follow the policy and procedures • Centre-based services; ensure adequate shading over areas for both active and passive outdoor play • Ensure access to an adequate supply of in-date sunscreen for children and educators • Ensure that copies of the policy and procedures are readily accessible to director, educators and families, and available for inspection • Implement the Sun Protection policy and procedures, ensuring that all action plans that are in place are carried out • Monitor the UV daily, identify when and how any sun protection changes need to occur, and communicate this to educators • Promote sun safe practices with all children, educators, and families within the service • Leadership regularly monitor and review how effectively as a service we implement our sun protection policy
Educators	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Implement the Sun Protection policy and procedures • Monitor the UV daily and manage outdoor play and learning accordingly • Monitor the impact of sun on play equipment and surfaces that children will be touching and using such as soft fall mats, artificial surfacing, etc. • Communicate with families about sun safe practices in general and specific expectations within the service e.g. wearing protective clothing
Families	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Be aware of and follow the service’s Sun Protection policy and procedures • Send children and young people to the service in appropriate clothing that offers sun protection

The development of the sun protection policy involved OSHC children, Director, Cancer Council SA, OSHC Educators and our OSHC families.

All policies are reviewed and accepted by the School Principal and the Mawson Lakes School Governing Council.

The Sun Protection policy must be updated and submitted to the Cancer Council NSW every three years to maintain a SunSmart status.

REVIEW

POLICY CREATED BY	Cyndi, Sue & Lorin - All educators	Nominated Supervisor	June 2022
POLICY REVIEWED BY	Lorin & Sue - All educators	Nominated Supervisor	May 2025
MODIFICATIONS Reviewed the SunSmart policy guidelines for OSHC and Vacation Care.			
POLICY REVIEWED BY			
MODIFICATIONS			