



Sun protection in schools and early childhood education services

Pooraka Community Kindergarten Sun Protection Policy



Purpose (Policy Statement)

All department school sites and early childhood education and care services must have a sun protection policy in effect for school terms 1, 3 and 4 and whenever ultra violet (UV) radiation levels reach 3 or above. Sites must inform the school community including employees, students, parents and volunteers of the sun protection policy. Children and young people are encouraged to be responsible for their own sun protection.

Using sun protection

The preschool uses a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities on and off site **during terms 1, 2, 3 and 4** including inclement weather. The need for sun protection is measured by the UV Rating each day.

Clothing

Sun protective clothing is recommended to be worn at preschool. The preschool has spare sunsafe clothing onsite that is offered to children when they are not wearing sunsafe clothing. Clothing should be cool, loose fitting and made of closely woven fabric. It includes shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and or t-shirts.

Sunscreen

Students must apply their own SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen before coming to kindergarten. *Pooraka Community Kindergarten* supplies SPF 30 or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen for staff and students' use.

Sunscreen procedures have been implemented into daily routines. Families apply sunscreen prior to, or on, arrival, then sunscreen is applied before washing hands at lunch time. Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if remaining outdoors. Children may be under the verandah or in the shade during the 20 minute wait period.

Families with children who have naturally very dark skin are encouraged to discuss their vitamin D requirements with their GP or pediatrician.

Hats

All students and staff 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. Families provide their child with a hat, but spare hats are available onsite.

Shade

Care is taken during the peak UV radiation times, and outdoor activities are scheduled outside of these times or in the shade where possible. Students are encouraged to use available areas of shade when outside. Students who do not have appropriate hats or clothing are asked to stay in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun (sand pit, pergola, verandah). Children will be asked to play under the verandah or inside.

Curriculum

Sun Smart behaviour is regularly reinforced and promoted to the whole preschool community through newsletters, notes, preschool website, governing council meetings Class DOJO App, parent meetings, staff meetings, school events, student and teacher activities and in student enrolment packs.

Age-appropriate information on skin protection is included in the learning program. Staff will role model safe practices and promote a positive attitude toward sun protections. Sun safe practices will be integrated into our morning and lunch routines (application of sunscreen, suitable hat and clothing).

The information has been extracted from the [Cancer Council SA SunSmart policy](#)

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