



Salisbury Park Kindergarten

Inclement Weather and Sun Protection Policy



Government
of South Australia

Department for Education

Sun Smart Statement

Salisbury Park Kindergarten is committed to providing and maintaining a safe and healthy outside learning environment at all times. The aims of this policy are to promote among children, educators & families:

- Awareness and appreciation for safe play in the outdoor learning environment
- Adopting a positive attitude towards the need for protection when UV levels are 3 and above.
- Adopting lifestyle practices that reduce the incidence of skin damage, skin cancer and heat stress.
- Independence in decision making about skin protection
- the benefits of low level sun exposure (when UV levels are below 3) to support vitamin D levels which are essential for healthy bones and muscles

Links to National Quality Standards

2.2 Each child is safe and protected.

2.2.1 At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard.

Implementation

- On days where UV levels are predicted to be 3 and above, it is recommended that **children have sunscreen applied at home before they arrive** at kindergarten. Bulk sunscreen is available at the centre for family use.
- When attending a full day, a **broad-spectrum, water resistant sunscreen with SPF of at least 30+ will be applied** during the lunch break.
- Children will be encouraged to **avoid direct exposure to the sun** between 10am and 3pm.
- During hot weather, outdoor activities will be limited to shady areas. Temperature of 35*
- In extreme heat, play will be limited to the inside area only. Temperature of 39*
- Children will be reminded to drink water, which is freely available in the inside and outside area.
- Families are encouraged to **dress their child in clothing that provides sun protection for skin** eg. Shoulders and mid-drift covered, longer shorts/ skirts.
- The centre will incorporate **'Sun Smart'** activities into the learning programmes.
- **Staff will be positive role models** who practice skin protective behaviours.
- Children will be required to **wear a hat outside during terms 1,3 & 4**. Appropriate hats include broad brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hats. **Cords and draw strings on hats must have a safety release**
- **UV levels will be monitored during term 2**. If levels are below 3, hats will not be required.
- Families are encouraged to leave a hat on the kindy hat rack or in their child's bag, to ensure accessibility during times of need.

NO HAT MEANS PLAY UNDER VERANDAH AREAS ONLY

Inclement Weather Statement

We are maintaining our philosophy of providing children with opportunities to play and learn in a range of weather conditions. We will ensure that children and educators are safe during extreme weather conditions.

Parents will:

- Send children to kindergarten in weather appropriate clothing,
- **Summer:** light clothing that covers skin and provides appropriate sun protection.
Winter: Layers of clothing, water proof jacket, closed shoes or gum boots
- Collect children, if requested by the centre, in times of extreme conditions that may impact on children's wellbeing. Eg. sustained power failure or breakdown of heating/cooling equipment.

Educators will:

- Wear appropriate clothing to manage their own comfort in all weather conditions.
- Undertake a risk assessment for outdoor experiences when the weather is unpredictable or there are weather warnings. Where possible children will be involved in this process. Conditions to consider include high winds, extreme heat (over 39 degrees), electrical storms.
- Refer to Bureau of Meteorology for information related to extreme weather conditions.
- Activate appropriate cooling and heating systems to provide relief from temperature extremes.
- Ensure drinking water is provided at all times
- Regularly practice and review emergency evacuation and evacuation procedures.
- Seek direction from Department of Education or other authorities during extreme weather conditions.
- Ensure all trees within the kindergarten are inspected annually and that follow up actions are implemented.
- Make parents aware of the policy, by distributing it to new and existing families.
- Ensure the policy is understood by all educators and that it is included in the staff induction folder.
- Ensure the policy is reviewed biannually (or as required)

Endorsed by Governing Council on 25/05/2018