

Kangaroo Inn Preschool Sun Protection policy

This policy applies to all centre activities and events on and off-site.

Rationale

A balance of ultraviolet (UV) radiation exposure is important for health. Too much of the sun's UV radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Sun exposure during childhood and adolescence is a major factor in determining future skin cancer risk.

Too little UV radiation from the sun can lead to low vitamin D levels. Vitamin D is essential for healthy bones and muscles, and for general health. Sensible sun protection when UV is 3 and above does not put people at risk of vitamin D deficiency.

Objectives

This sun protection policy has been developed to:

- encourage children and staff to use a combination of sun protection measures whenever the UV Index level reaches 3 and above.
- work towards a safe centre environment that provides shade for children and staff at appropriate times.
- assist children to be responsible for their own sun protection.
- ensure families and new staff are informed of the centre's sun protection policy.

Procedures

Policy implementation times

Staff are encouraged to check the daily sun protection times each morning for our location using the free [SunSmart Global UV app](#), [SunSmart widget](#), myuv.com.au or the [Bureau of Meteorology website](#) to support the implementation of sun protection at the centre.

The centre uses a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities during terms 1, 3 and 4 and whenever UV levels reach 3 and above at other times.

Scheduling

A combination of sun protection measures are considered when planning outdoor activities such as excursions and water-based activities.

Care is taken during the peak UV radiation times, and outdoor activities are scheduled outside of these times, where possible or in the shade.

Peak UV times of the day are when the UV is highest during the daytime and differ from the local sun protection times issued by the Bureau of Meteorology, which change daily. For an implementation guide peak UV times of the day are 11.00 am-3.00 pm during daylight savings and 10.00 am-2.00 pm during non-daylight savings.

Sun protection measures

1. Hats

All children and staff are required to wear a broad-brimmed, legionnaire or bucket hat which protects the face, ears, and neck. Baseball caps are not acceptable. The centre has spare hats available for child use.

2. Clothing

When outside, children wear cool, loose fitting clothing. Clothing made from cool, closely woven fabric is recommended, including shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts and rash tops or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.

3. Sunscreen

SPF 50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen is supplied by the centre for children and staff use.

- Families with children who have sensitive skin are asked to provide a suitable SPF 50+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen for their child's use.
- Families with children who are concerned about vitamin D requirements are encouraged to speak to their GP or paediatrician.
- When age-appropriate children are reminded to apply sunscreen under adult supervision.
- Time is provided to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.
- Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors.
- Sunscreen is re-applied every 2 hours when remaining or returning outdoors.

4. Shade

- Staff are to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities as much as possible and actively encourage children to play in the shade.
- Children who are not wearing a SunSmart hat or appropriate clothing are asked to play in the shade or return indoors.

7. Staff WH&S and role modelling

For work health and safety and role modelling, when the UV is 3 and above, staff are required to practice SunSmart behaviours including:

- wearing sun protective hats, clothing and sunglasses when outside
- applying SPF 50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen
- seeking shade whenever possible.

Families and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures when participating in or attending outdoor activities with the centre.

8. Enrolment and information for families

When enrolling their child families are:

- informed of the centre's sun protection policy.
- asked to provide a suitable hat for their child.
- asked to provide their child with suitable outdoor clothing that is cool and covers as much skin as possible.
- required to give permission for staff to apply sunscreen to their child (in enrolment pack).

9. Learning and development

Sun protection is incorporated into daily routines.

10. Policy promotion

Sun protection information and the sun protection policy is regularly promoted to the whole centre community including staff, volunteers and families in enrolment packs, induction letter and communication app Seesaw.

Policy review

The centre will review the policy regularly (at least every three years) and revise the policy when required.

Date of next policy review: 04/03/2028

Legislation

This policy relates to the following National Law and Regulations:

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010

- Section 167 – Protection from harm and hazards

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

- Regulation 100 – Risk assessment must be conducted before excursion
- Regulation 113 – Outdoor space–natural environment
- Regulation 114 – Outdoor space–shade
- Regulation 168: Policies and procedures (2)(a)(ii)–sun protection
- Regulation 170 – Policies and procedure to be followed
- Regulation 171 – Policies and procedures to be kept available
- Regulation 172 – Notification of change to policies or procedures.

Work Health and Safety Act 2012

National Quality Standards

All of the following sun protection procedures link to:

- **Quality area 2: Children's health and safety**

There are also links to:

- **Quality area 1: Educational program and practice**
- **Quality area 3: Physical environment**
- **Quality area 5: Relationships with children**
- **Quality area 6: Collaborative partnerships with families and communities**
- **Quality area 7: Governance and leadership.**

Version:	1
Approved by site leader:	Annie Matthews/Amy Oswald
Date of approval by Governing Council:	04/03/2026
Endorsement recorded in Governing Council minutes dated:	04/03/2026
Date of next review:	04/03/2028
Amendments(s):	Nil