

# Hendon Preschool

## Sun Protection Policy



**Quality Area 2 – Children’s Health and Safety**

**Regulation 167 - Offence relating to protection of children from harm and hazards**

### **Purpose**

Hendon Preschool promotes a balance between sun protection and sun exposure to reduce the risk of skin damage and skin cancer, and the production and maintenance of vitamin D among children and educators. When the UV index reaches 3 or above protective measures will be actioned.

In South Australia, the UV index generally reaches 3 or above from August to April. Sun protection is recommended during these times. The UV index may also reach 3 or above during May.

### **Children**

Will be supplied with a broad brim hat on the commencement of Preschool, which will remain on site all year. Children are to wear hats in the outdoor environment when the UV is 3 or above. In addition, an educator will assist with the application of Cancer Council approved sunscreen (SPF 50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen).

Children are to wear clothing that helps protect them from the sun. Clothing should be cool, loose fitting and made of closely woven fabric. This includes tops that cover the shoulders, shirts with collars and elbow length sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts. Singlet or midriff tops are not recommended. Children without appropriate sun protective hats or clothing will be asked to remain in a shaded area.

### **Educators including volunteers/visitors:**

As part of work, health and safety UV risk controls, are asked to role model sun protective behaviours by wearing suitable sun protective clothing, a broad brim hat and sunglasses (optional), apply sunscreen and seek shade. They will monitor the local sun protection times and UV rating daily using the SunSmart Global UV app and apply it to our sun protective policy. Educators ensure sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours if remaining outdoors. The Sun Protection Policy will be available to all new staff, students, volunteers and visitors.

### **Families**

Families are encouraged to apply sunscreen to their child at home prior to arriving at preschool. They are encouraged to dress their child in suitable sun protective clothing. Parents will be responsible for informing the educator if their child has sensitive skin, and asked to provide a suitable sunscreen for their child's exclusive use. Parents will need to complete a relevant Health Support Agreement. Educators need to complete relevant Safety and Risk Management Plan. Sun Smart practices are regularly reinforced and promoted to the preschool community through newsletters, Seesaw and in enrolment packs.

### **Environment/curriculum**

The outdoor environment is reviewed on a termly basis to ensure temporary and fixed shade structures are adequate to protect children from the sun. Educators are to be mindful in the way the environment is set up (particularly during the peak UV times of the day) to encourage children to play in shaded areas. Programs on skin cancer prevention are included in the curriculum.

**Policy Created** – 15<sup>th</sup> September 2021

**Policy Amended** – 5<sup>th</sup> September 2024

**Policy Endorsed** - This policy was endorsed by Hendon Primary School Governing Council on 29<sup>th</sup> October 2024

**Review** - As required to ensure continued relevance for Hendon Preschool or at least every 3 years.