

Unley Kindergarten Policies and Procedures

Sun Protection Policy

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

Purpose

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.

Background

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.

PROCEDURES

Policy implementation times

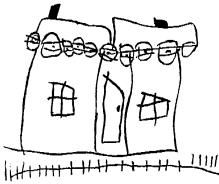
Staff are encouraged to check the daily sun protection times each morning for our location using the free [SunSmart Global UV app](#), [SunSmart widget](#), [myuv.com.au](#) or the [Bureau of Meteorology website](#) to support the implementation of sun protection at the centre.

The kindergarten uses a combination of sun protection measures for all outdoor activities from 1 August to 30 April, 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.



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Sun protection measures

1. Hats

- Children and staff are expected to wear a hat outdoors when the UV rating is 3 and above. Children not wearing an appropriate hat will have the choice to wear a spare kindy hat or be asked to play in the shade.

2. Clothing

- Children attending the kindergarten are to wear appropriate sun protective clothing, including tops with sleeves covering the shoulders. No singlets or sleeveless tops will be allowed.

3. Sunscreen

- SPF 50+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen is supplied by the kindergarten 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.
- Families are encouraged to apply sunscreen to their child before or upon arriving at the centre.
- When the UV rating is 3 and above, sunscreen will be applied by all children (with support from staff) twice a day 15-20 minutes prior to commencing play outside.

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.
- Tree planting is a high priority at the site to ensure natural shade is available.
- Shade is available over the sandpit and common play areas.
- Children who are not wearing a SunSmart hat or appropriate clothing are asked to play in the shade or return indoors.

5. Sunglasses (optional)

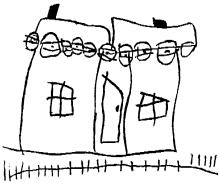
- Children and staff are encouraged to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that provide the best protection against UV eye damage. Sunglasses should meet Australian standard AS/NZS 1067 (Sunglasses: lens category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible. Novelty tinted glasses do not protect against UV radiation and are not recommended.

6. 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.



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7. Enrolment and information for families

When enrolling their child families are:

- informed of the kindergarten'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 through the parent questionnaire.

8. Learning and development

Sun protection is incorporated into the learning program and/or planned experiences.

9. Policy promotion

Sun protection information and the sun protection policy is regularly promoted to the kindergarten community including staff, volunteers and families through newsletters, the parent information booklet, and/or website.

Supporting Information

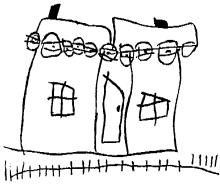
Adapted from Cancer Council SA's Sun Protection Policy for Early Childhood Centres

Reviewed: June 2025

Endorsed by: Unley Kindergarten Governing Council 2025

Date of approval: 19/08/2025

Next review date: August 2028



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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.**