

Dernancourt Kindergarten

Skin Protection Policy

Rationale:

Research continues to highlight skin protection, especially in the first 18 years of life as a major strategy in the fight against skin cancer.

Outdoor activities are part of a child's day at kindergarten, so skin protection measures must become a part of their daily routine. This policy will work best when implemented by staff and parents together, so we request your cooperation.

Guidelines:

- Children will be encouraged to avoid direct exposure in the sun between 10.00am and 2.00pm (11.00am - 3.00pm in daylight saving times) when ultra violet light levels are highest.
- Children will wear hats during terms 1 and 4 when playing outside and when the UV count is 3 or above during terms 2 and 3. Where the UV count is below 3 the children will not be required to wear a hat.
- Children who do not have hats on days where it is required will play in well shaded areas such as under the veranda or covered sandpit.
- Outdoor activities will be placed in shady areas. On very hot days, or when UV ratings are high only indoor and veranda activities will be provided.
- Excursions/outdoor functions will be planned with shade provisions in mind.
- Shade provisions will be given priority in any forward planning for outdoor areas.
- Staff will incorporate sun and skin awareness activities into teaching activities.
- Staff will be positive role models by wearing hats and appropriate clothing for all outdoor activities, by directing children to shady areas and by ensuring children wear their hats when required.

Procedures:

All parents will be given a copy of this policy upon enrolment and are requested to:

- Bring their child's named hat (as provided by the Kindergarten on enrolment) each day.
- If providing their own hat or additional hats please ensure the hat shades the head, neck, and face (eg/ broad brimmed and legionnaire). Hats should be named and left in children's bags or the hat tub provided at Kindergarten.
- Dress their child in shirts and tops, which protect from the sun (eg/ collars, sleeves).
- Apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen of SPF 15 or more before their child comes to kindergarten. Sunscreen will be reapplied halfway through the day with children's own sunscreen or as provided by the Kindergarten during terms 1 and 4.

A copy of this policy will be available at all times at the parent information area in the policy folder at Kindergarten.

The policy will apply to all users of the Kindergarten, including playgroups and volunteers etc.

This policy will be reviewed and evaluated regularly by both staff and Governing Council and modified as required to ensure continued relevance to the Kindergarten.