



SunSafety Policy Template for Kindergartens & Early Childhood Services

Regulation 46 (1)(a), 45 Criteria

Rationale:

Children and adults at _____ need protection against the damaging effects of the sun. Excessive exposure to the ultra-violet radiation (UV radiation) from the sun may cause sun-burn and damage the skin which increases the risk of skin cancer. Children engaged in play and recreation activities outside may have increased exposure to UV radiation.

At _____ we follow the Cancer Society message of Slip, Slop, Slap, Wrap, and Seek shade, to reduce the risk of UV radiation that causes harm.

This sun protection policy will apply September to April, (especially between 10am and 4pm), and when the UVI is 3 or above.

This policy is adopted from Cancer Society New Zealand so that children attending _____ are protected from excessive exposure to UVR from the sun.

Te Whāriki:

Well-being - Goal 1. Children experience an environment where their health is promoted.

Well-being - Goal 4. Children are kept safe from harm.

Aims:

To increase awareness of skin and eye damage and practical means of protection.

To encourage responsible decision making about sun protection.

To work towards an environment that provides shade for children, parents and staff.

Children, parents and staff will wear appropriate hats and clothing for outdoor activities when the UVI is 3 or higher.

Strategies:

- Children will be required to wear appropriate hats when outside during the peak UV times
 - Staff will adopt a strategy of “No hat, play in the shade or indoors”.
 - Caps or visors are not acceptable as they do not shade the cheeks, chin, ears or back of neck
 - Children will be required to play in the shade or indoors if dressed inappropriately for sun exposure.
- It is strongly recommended that a broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen with an SPF of at least 30+ is applied twice a day, before the children go out after morning tea and again before the go out after lunch;

- Sunscreen should be applied 15 - 20 minutes before exposure to the sun and re-applied every two hours and directly after swimming.
- Any child requiring special sunscreen due to skin allergies may be required to provide their own.
- Staff will role model wearing appropriate hats, clothing and sunscreen when outside.
- Programme activities will be planned to avoid prolonged periods outdoors during the hottest part of the day (peak UV times are 10am-4pm).
- Activities away from the Centre will be planned to minimise UV radiation risk and avoid peak UV times outdoors.
- Sun-safe and shaded areas at the site will be utilised and children will have access to shaded play areas.
- Parents will be informed on enrolment of the policy regarding sun-safety and encouraged to send children with appropriate clothing.
- _____ will include sun safety education, especially during the summer months and promote sun-safety messages through the display of posters and sun-safety messages.
- Drinking water is available at all times.

SIGNED:		DATE	
POSITION:		REVIEW DATE (3 years)	

1. Sunscreen should not be the sole or primary form of protection.
2. The Cancer Society of New Zealand recommends holding programme excursions early in the day to cut down the exposure to UV radiation. Plan them for venues where adequate shade is available or alternatively provide your own shade by taking umbrellas or tents.
3. Check your daily UV levels at sunsmart.org.nz, through Met Service or from the app uv2Day