



BELAIR PRIMARY SCHOOL OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE

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Government of South Australia
 Department for Education

CLOTHING POLICY

Children need protective, comfortable and appropriate clothing and footwear to explore their environment and to participate freely in experiences. Clothing needs to protect children from injury and sun exposure while promoting self-help abilities. Appropriate footwear will fit a child's foot correctly and ensure comfort. Educators will also dress to prevent injury and sun exposure and will be encouraged to dress in a professional and respectful manner, as positive role models for children.

NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD (NQS)

QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY		
2.2	Safety	Each child is protected
2.2.1	Supervision	At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard.

QUALITY AREA 5: RELATIONSHIPS WITH CHILDREN		
5.1	Relationships between educators and children	Respectful and equitable relationships are maintained with each child
5.1.1	Positive educator to child interactions	Responsive and meaningful interactions build trusting relationships which engage and support each child to feel secure, confident and included.
5.1.2	Dignity and rights of the child	The dignity and rights of every child are maintained.

EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL REGULATIONS	
168	Education and care services must have policies and procedures
168(2)(ii)	Policies and procedures are required in relation to sun protection

RELATED POLICIES

Children's belongings Policy Family Communication Policy Health and Safety Policy	Sun Safety Policy Supervision Policy Multicultural Policy
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PURPOSE

At Belair Primary School OSHC, staff aim to ensure the safety and comfort of all children by providing appropriate clothing guidelines for children, parents and staff utilising and working at the service.

Children being clothed appropriately enables them to play without risk of sunburn and serious injury caused by inappropriate footwear or clothing. Children are more at ease, reassured, satisfied and less anxious when they are: dressed for warmth during winter or not over-dressed during summer, or wearing safe footwear when climbing on outdoor play equipment or participating in physical activity.

SCOPE

This policy applies to children, families, staff and visitors to the Belair Primary School OSHC service.

IMPLEMENTATION

Effective clothing strategies, including sun protection clothing, are important factors in ensuring a child feels safe and secure at our OSHC service. While children will generally attend the service in their school uniform during term, this policy is in place to support families' understanding of appropriate clothing for vacation care.

DIRECTOR/ NOMINATED SUPERVISOR WILL:

- ensure that a Sun Safety policy is developed and reviewed regularly;
- ensure that educators are provided with personal protective equipment (e.g. gloves, goggles etc.) to facilitate cleaning and to protect their health and safety;
- provide information for educators about suitable clothing and footwear expectations for the education and care work environment;
- provide information for families about suitable clothing and footwear for their child to wear while at the OSHC service (including on front cover of Vacation Care programs). This information will also be shared with families using a variety of communication strategies including emails, brochures, the school website, signs and posters;
- ensure educators are aware of and abide by the Sun Safety policy;
- ensure a culturally inclusive environment by conveying respect and understanding of families' cultural traditions regarding clothing;
- provide information to educators about children's cultural dress requirements.

EDUCATORS WILL:

- consult and communicate with families about the individual needs of children with respect to different values and beliefs associated with clothing and footwear;
- monitor children's clothing and footwear to ensure compliance with the Sun Safety policy and to support the safety, comfort and well-being of every child;
- consider clothing and footwear needs associated with excursions or planned learning experiences and communicate clearly with families about the need for specific protective clothing requirements (e.g. for specific Vacation Care sessions);
- provide protective clothing, such as aprons, for messy play experiences and painting. Children will be encouraged by educators to wear protective clothing during messy and water play;
- encourage children to use their self-help skills where appropriate to put on and remove clothing and shoes to meet their needs. Educators will observe and monitor younger children to ensure their clothing and footwear is appropriate for the environment and weather conditions;
- monitor the UV rating to ensure children are dressed appropriately for the weather and are adequately protected (e.g. long sleeve shirts);
- discuss clothing with children: for example, the need to wear hats for sun protection;

- model appropriate clothing: for example, wearing hats and sun safe clothing;
- respect children's privacy and modesty when having children change their clothes or dressing themselves.

FAMILIES WILL:

- provide spare clothing in children's bags during school vacation periods (as required and age appropriate);
- dress children appropriately for play and weather, including footwear and appropriate hat;
- ensure their child is clothed in an appropriate manner that will allow them to explore and play freely and not be restricted when using equipment while at play; ensure clothing for younger children (K-2) also allows easy access for toileting – e.g. elasticised trousers or track pants rather than buttons, zips or belts;
- not dress their children in good/expensive clothing when there is a chance their clothes will get dirty or stained;
- ensure children are appropriately protected from the sun – (please refer to Sun Safety policy for further directives on hats and clothing);
- ensure children's clothing accommodates varying weather conditions. i.e. is loose and cool in summer to prevent overheating and warm enough for cold weather – including outdoor play. At all times, educators will monitor children to ensure they are appropriately dressed for all weather, play experiences and when resting or sleeping if tired or unwell;
- ensure children have appropriate footwear that enables them to play comfortably and not cause safety concerns. i.e. thongs, clogs or backless shoes have a trip factor and do not allow children to use equipment safely;
- ensure all clothing and belongings are clearly labelled with the child's name.

Special clothes/dress ups

To facilitate pretend play and celebrate different cultural experiences, children may be invited to dress up according to a theme or particular cultural celebration.

Our educators will communicate with families to ensure all children have the opportunity to engage in these activities by wearing appropriate clothing.

When dressing their child in 'dress up' clothes, parents are asked to ensure their child's footwear is appropriate for play-based learning at the OSHC service and to ensure clothing is sun safe.

SOURCE:

Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. (2014).
 Guide to the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2017. (amended 2020).
 Community Child Care Co-Operative
 Cancer Council Australia – www.cancer.org.au
 Raising Children Network – <http://raisingchildren.net.au>

[Education and Care Services National Regulations](#). (2011).

Revised National Quality Standard. (2018).

National Health and Medical Research Council. (2013). *Staying Healthy: Preventing infectious diseases in early*

childhood education and care services (5th Ed.). Australia: Commonwealth of Australia. NSW Government. (n.d.).

Work Health and Safety Act 2011 (Cth).

REVIEW

POLICY REVIEWED	May 2022	NEXT REVIEW DATE	May 2024
MODIFICATIONS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Extra and more detailed clothing responsibilities added • Special clothes/dress ups section added • National Regulations added 		
MODIFICATIONS	Policy created to comply with revised NQS		