## BELAIR PRIMARY SCHOOL OUT OF SCHOOL HOURS CARE



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# **SUN SAFE POLICY**

Australia has one of the highest rates of skin cancer in the world with two in three Australians developing some form of skin cancer before the age of 70. Too much of the sun's UV radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is strongly associated with an increased risk of skin cancer later in life (Cancer Council Australia).

## NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD (NQS)

QUALITY AREA 2: CHILDREN'S HEALTH AND SAFETY							
2.1	Health	Each child's health and physical activity is supported and promoted.					
2.1.1	Wellbeing and comfort	Each child's wellbeing and comfort is provided for, including appropriate opportunities to meet each child's needs for sleep, rest and relaxation.					
2.1.3	Healthy lifestyle	Healthy eating and physical activity are promoted and appropriate for each child.					
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.					

EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL LAW				
167	Protection from harm and hazards			

EDUCATION AND CARE SERVICES NATIONAL REGULATIONS					
100	Risk assessment must be conducted before excursions				
113	Outdoor space natural environment				
114	Outdoor space shade				
168	Education and care service must have policies and procedures				
168 (2)(a)(ii)	Sun Protection				

#### **RELATED POLICIES**

Clothing Policy	Supervision Policy	
Physical Environment Policy	Work Health and Safety Policy	

#### **PURPOSE**

To protect all children and staff from the harmful effects of ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun.

#### **SCOPE**

This policy applies to children, families and staff of the Belair Primary School Out of School Hours Care service, to ensure the outdoor environment provides shade for children and staff to minimise unsafe UV exposure.

#### **IMPLEMENTATION**

Our service will work in compliance with the National SunSmart Program to ensure children's health and safety is maintained at all times while at the service. This policy applies to all activities on and off site.

#### **UV LEVELS**

Our service will monitor the UV levels daily via www.cancersa.org.au

#### **OUTDOOR ACTIVITIES**

A combination of the sun protection measures listed below will be used by the service for all outdoor activities during the daily local sun protection times, when the UV Index is 3 or above. At these levels, a combination of sun protection is recommended for all skin types.

Care is taken during the peak UV radiation times and outdoor activities are scheduled outside of these times where possible.

#### **SHADE**

#### Director will ensure:

- sufficient natural, portable, or human-made shade will be provided, particularly in high use areas;
- shaded areas will be used for play experiences;
- play experiences will be monitored throughout the day and moved as required to remain in the shade;
- when eaten outside, morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea will be eaten in shaded areas;
- regular risk assessments and reviews will be made of the outdoor area to assist in planning for further shade requirements;
- children will still be required to wear hats and appropriate outdoor clothing if playing under natural or portable shade;

#### **HATS**

Educators and children are required to wear yellow (children) and red (staff) OSHC hats at all times when they are outdoors during terms 1, 3 &4 and during December/January, April and October vacation care.

Children who are not wearing a yellow OSHC hat must return indoors. (To support physical activity, on occasions, child may be allowed to play outdoors if the area is shaded and suitable for play.)

#### **CLOTHING**

- When outdoors, staff and children will wear sun safe clothing that covers as much of the skin as possible. Cancer Council Australia recommends the following clothing:
  - Shirts with collars
  - Tops with higher necklines
  - Shirts with elbow-length or longer sleeves
  - Longer-style shorts/skirts/dresses
  - Rash vests/t-shirts for outdoor water-based activities
- Please note: Midriff, crop or singlet tops do not provide enough sun protection and therefore are not appropriate.
- Children who do not have appropriate sun protective clothing are required to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

#### **SUNSCREEN**

As per Cancer Council SA recommendations:

- Staff and children will apply SPF30 or higher broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen approximately every 2-3 hours during Vacation Care (approximately 9.00 am, 12.00 pm and 3pm) if participating in outdoor activities and the UV is 3 or above.
- At after school care sessions, staff and children will apply sunscreen prior to going outside if outside play is occurring when UV is 3 or above.
- Staff are to encourage children to take responsibility for their own sun protection.
- Sunscreen is re-applied immediately after perspiring, water-based activities, towel drying or being washed off.
- Families are encouraged to supply their own SPF 30 or higher broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen.
- Families are encouraged to apply sunscreen to children before or upon arrival at the service.

## **EDUCATION AND INFORMATION**

- Sun protection will be incorporated regularly into learning programs
- Sun protection information will be promoted to staff, families and visitors
- The Sun Safe Policy will be made available to all staff and families of the service

- service staff role model sun safety practices;
- our service encourages visitors to use a combination of sun protection measures when participating in outdoor activities.

#### **SOURCE**

Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority.

Bureau of meteorology. Home page (for UV Index): http://www.bom.gov.au/uv/

Cancer Council. (2019). UV alert: <a href="https://www.cancer.org.au/preventing-cancer/sun-protection/uv-alert/">https://www.cancer.org.au/preventing-cancer/sun-protection/uv-alert/</a>

Cancer Council SA

Cancer Council. Home page: https://www.cancer.org.au/

Cancer Council. Preventing cancer: Sun protections: <a href="https://www.cancer.org.au/preventing-cancer/sun-protection/">https://www.cancer.org.au/preventing-cancer/sun-protection/</a>

Children's Services Act 1996

Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics. (2016).

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010. (Amended 2018).

Education and Care Services National Regulations. (2011)

Guide to the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations. (2017).

Guide to the National Quality Standard. (2017).

Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Revised National Quality Standard. (2020).

### **REVIEW**

POLICY REVIEWED	May 2022	NEXT REVIEW DATE	May 2024		
May 2022  Modifications	<ul> <li>Policy updated to meet the national SunSmart criteria (Cancer Council SA) and to be in line with school sun safety policy</li> </ul>				
November 2020 Modifications	<ul> <li>Changes to format to align with current policy format.</li> <li>Addition of dot point referring to UV at after school care.</li> <li>Alteration of sunscreen requirements in line with Cancer Council SA requirements.</li> </ul>				