



# NARNIA CHRISTIAN PRE-SCHOOL AND EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE

ACN 002 919 584

(Administered by St. Philip's Christian Education Foundation Ltd.)



## SUN PROTECTION POLICY

Childcare services have a responsibility and opportunity to reduce children's risk and to help establish effective long-term behaviours. This sun protection policy that is based on the latest research and best practice principles, which will help our service achieve this.

### Aim:

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure that all children attending our Centre are protected, as much as possible, from skin damage caused by the sun.

### Implementation:

- 1) Sun protection messages are incorporated into the learning program for children.
- 2) Staff should implement sun protection measures on both sunny and cloudy days when the sun's rays can penetrate and damage the skin.
- 3) Staff should ensure that the children's needs for fluids/water are adequately provided for at all times throughout the day.
- 4) Throughout the year and in particular during the warmer months when the ultraviolet radiation is strongest, all children attending the Centre are to bring and wear sun-safe hats, preferably broad-brimmed, bucket or legionnaires type. Baseball caps and sun visors are not recommended. When returning inside from outdoor play all hats should be placed in lockers. Children without a sun safe hat will be asked to play in an area protected from the sun.
- 5) Children are required to wear sun-safe clothing that covers as much skin as possible. Midriff, crop or singlet tops are not recommended as tops must cover shoulders.
- 6) The Centre will provide water-resistant SPF30+ broad spectrum sunscreen that is approved by the Aus/NZ standard 2604:1998, which will be applied to all children by the staff 20 minutes before they go outside.
- 7) Children under 12 months of age will not be exposed to direct sunlight. Staff will ensure that babies remain in dense shade when outside. Care will be taken to avoid babies' exposure to indirect or reflected UV radiation when they are in shaded areas by using SunSmart clothing and a hat, and placing them in the middle of the shade. SPF30+, broad-spectrum and water-resistant sunscreen can be used on small areas of skin not covered by clothing (eg, feet and hands).

- 8) Parents should advise the staff if their child is allergic to the sunscreen and parents will supply an alternative that meets the standards. If a child is not to have sunscreen applied a Doctor's letter is required stating the reason why.
- 9) From October to March, the service will minimise outdoor activity between 11am and 3pm with sun protection required at all times when outside. From April to September, outdoor activity can take place at any time during the day with sun protection required between 10am and 2pm (EST), except in June and July when the UV Index is mostly below 3. The UV rating can be monitored on the Cancer Council SunSmart App/website and shall help guide required practice. If UV is above 6 children are to play in shaded areas.
- 10) The centre has a covered veranda, shade over the sand pit and deck areas as well as shifting shade from trees and building/structural shadows. Staff are aware of the movement of such shade and set up outdoor activities in shaded areas. If required activities are moved into shaded areas throughout the day after assessment of the moving shade.
- 11) Staff, volunteers, students and parents are also required to wear hats and SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen whilst outdoors and act as role models in their demonstration of sun-safe behaviour. To assist in this sun protection information is available to staff, families and visitors in the front foyer.
- 12) Sun protection measures will be considered when planning excursions.

*This policy links to the following:*

*National Quality Standards 2.3.2, 3.1.1*

*Education and Care Service National Regulation 2011: 167, 114*

[www.cancercouncil.com.au](http://www.cancercouncil.com.au)

*Occupation Health and Safety Act (2004)*