

SECTION 3

HEALTH & SAFETY POLICIES

3.12 SUN SMART POLICY

PROCESS:

- UVR will be checked each morning on the BOM website. A link to the BOM website, is on The Gums website page.

Parent Responsibilities or when the UVR level is 3 and above

- Ensure parents are aware that they must apply sunscreen to their child before arriving at the Centre. We will do this by having notices up around the Centre, and by sending a copy of the policy home via our weekly emails at the end of August each year.
- If parents forget to apply sunscreen to their child, they should contact the centre ASAP and staff will immediately apply it.
- Encourage parents to send protective clothing and wide brimmed hats or legionnaire style hats for maximum protection.
- Parents who do not wish staff to apply sunscreen to their child/ren must indicate on the enrolment form.
- Parents should provide sunscreen for children with sensitive skin or allergies towards certain sunscreens.

Educator Responsibilities or when the UVR level is 3 and above

- Ensure a stock of SPF30+ broad spectrum sunscreen is available for reapplication at 1030am and 230pm or as per recommendation on BOM website. Older children will be encouraged to help apply their own sunscreen. Younger children will have their

sunscreen applied by Educators. Where ever possible, babies will remain in the shade whilst outdoors.

- Opening Educators to check the UVR level each day, all year round and document it, on the window in the foyer for all staff and children to see.
- Ensure hats and protective clothing are worn at all times by the children. The Centre will keep a supply of spare hats. Protective clothing includes shirts / dresses that cover the shoulder in full.
- Children who refuse to wear hats, protective clothing and sunscreen are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.
- Provide activities in shaded areas, especially during the peak UVR times (as recorded each day)
- Water will be made available to children at all times
- If the BOM website predicts in the morning that the temperature is going to be greater than 37 degrees, children must be offered the opportunity to either play inside or outside in a shaded area after 11am.
- If the BOM website is predicting **less than** 37 degrees in the morning, but the UVR level is in the extreme (11+) children are able to play outside in a shaded area.
- Reapply sunscreen prior to going outside, and wear a broad brimmed hat.

Directors Responsibilities

1. Ensure the Sun Smart policy is reviewed at least every two years to ensure that the information remains current and relevant.
2. Ensure parents are informed of the Centre's Sun Smart Policy
3. Ensure that the Sun Smart policy is reinforced through staff and children's activities and displays.
4. Staff and families are provided with information on sun protection and vitamin D through weekly emails, our Facebook page and the center's website.

When the UVR level is below 3

1. In the cooler months children and staff may wear a beanie or woolen hat outside.
2. Sunscreen is not applied, unless the children will be outside for a prolonged period in an un-shaded area (longer than 2hrs)

SOURCE: Sun smart Policy for early childhood centers. Cancer Council SA

Refers to the National Quality Framework, Quality Area 2: elements 2.1.3, 2.2.1, 2.3. National Regulations 168 (2)(a)