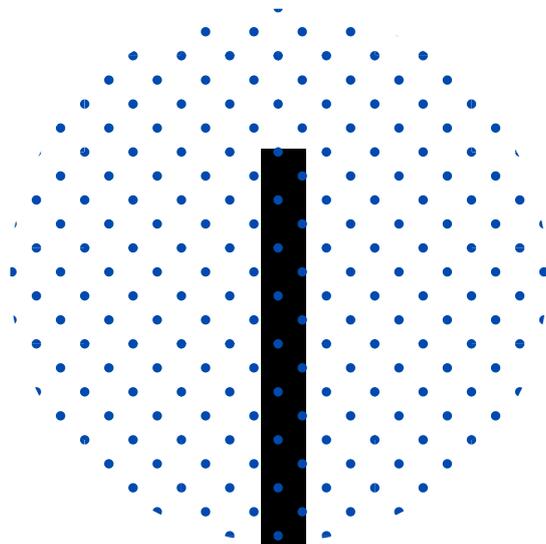


# SUN SAFETY POLICY



Kelvin Grove OSHC

## 4.2 Sun Safety

### Rationale

Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Of all new cancers diagnosed in Australia each year, 80 per cent are skin cancers. Given that children may be in care during peak ultraviolet radiation (UVR) times throughout the day, education and care settings play a major role in both minimising children's UVR exposure and providing an environment where policies and procedures can positively influence long-term behaviour. Skin damage, including skin cancer, is the result of cumulative exposure to the sun. Research shows that sunburn contributes to skin cancer and other forms of skin damage such as sunspots, blemishes and premature ageing. Most skin damage and skin cancer is therefore preventable. Ultraviolet radiation (UVR) levels are highest during the hours that children are at childcare settings. As children will spend a portion of their day outdoors, we are committed to protecting them from harmful effects of the sun.

*The rationale for this policy was provided by the Queensland Cancer Council and is consistent with their Sun Smart Policy Guidelines for Education and Care Settings.*

The purpose of this Sun Safety Policy is to ensure that all children, staff and visitors attending our service are protected from skin damage caused by harmful UVR from the sun. Kelvin Grove State College OSHC will provide a SunSmart environment that supports sun safe practices and create an awareness of the need to reschedule outdoor activities to support sun safe practices.



### Relevant Laws and other Provisions

The laws and other provisions affecting this policy include:

- Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010 and Regulations 2011
- Work Health and Safety Act 2011
- Duty of Care
- [Cancer Council Queensland SunSmart Policy Guidelines – Early Childhood Cancer Council Australia](#)
- **National Quality Standard Area:** 1.1.3; 2.1.1; 2.2.2; 2.3.2; 3.1.1; 4.2.1; 6.1.1, 6.1.3; 6.2.1; 7.1.2; 7.3.2; 7.3.5.
- **Policies:** 3.7 – Physical Activity, 4.1 - General Health and Safety, 4.4 - Preventative Health and Wellbeing, 9.2 – Enrolment, 9.3 – Communication with Families.



### Procedures

Sun Safety will be practiced at our service throughout the whole year.

Parents/guardians will be asked to provide a hat for their child and encourage them to wear it at all times when outdoors. They are encouraged to provide a broad brimmed SunSmart hat which protects the face, neck, ears and crown of the head. Caps are not encouraged but are permitted. The Service will ensure to the best of their ability that the children are protected from the sun but hold no responsibility if the children do not arrive with the appropriate sun safe clothing.

Parents/guardians will be asked to provide appropriate SunSmart clothing that protects as much of the skin as possible, and in particular covers the shoulders. Singlets are not permitted. The Service will ensure to the best of their ability that the children are protected from the sun but hold no responsibility if the children do not arrive with the appropriate sun safe clothing.

Educators will ensure that all children, staff, and visitors attending the service are protected from the harmful UV effects of the sun during the recommended times of the day.

The Coordinator/Responsible Person will:

- Inform parents of our Sun Safety Policy when children are enrolled.
- Ensure all sun protection measures are applied to children, staff and visitors while outside when the UV level is 3 or above, which in Queensland, is all year round including:
  - Wearing adequate SunSmart clothing and making use of shaded and/or covered areas;
  - Wearing broad-brimmed hats that protect the face, neck and ears; and
  - Applying SPF 30+ broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapply every 2 hours (with parent/guardian permission). Parents will need to provide children with labelled allergy safe sunscreen, or if required a letter in writing that their child cannot have sunscreen.
- Ensure all staff, children and visitors act as positive role models and demonstrate SunSmart protective measures (as above) when attending the service; and
- Ensure that adequate shade is provided during outdoor events including excursions.

Ongoing feedback and support will be sought from parents/guardians and the school community for the Sun Safety Policy and its implementation through newsletters, parent meetings etc.

The Sun Safety Policy will be reviewed regularly (at least annually) with children, staff, parents and the Approved Provider.

## Revisions

November 2009	Date of Development
February 2019	Approved by the P&C Executive Committee
June 2020	Approved by the P&C Executive Committee
<b>Date for Review</b>	June 2021 (or as required)