ECHUNGA PRESCHOOL
SUN PROTECTION POLICY

Aims

The aims of the Echunga Preschool Sun Protection Policy are to promote among children, staff and parents:

- Positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- Lifestyle practices which can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer and the number of related deaths.
- Personal responsibility for and decision making about skin protection.
- Awareness of the need for environmental changes in our centre to reduce the level of sun exposure when the UV radiation level is 3 and above.

Implementation

This policy is for implementation from 1 September to 30 April. Outside of this time care should also be taken when the ultraviolet radiation level is 3 (moderate) and above.

The purpose of the policy is to ensure that all members of our Preschool are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful rays of the sun.

It is an expectation that all staff, students and parents of the Echunga Preschool will use the following skin protection strategies:

1. Take care to protect the skin when the ultraviolet radiation level is 3 (moderate) and above. Extra care should be taken between 10.00am and 3.00pm when UV radiation levels are highest.
   - The children’s lunch, rest time and indoor activities will be held between 10.00am and 3.00pm to minimise exposure to UV radiation in the middle of the day.
   - Whenever possible, all outdoor activities will be scheduled before 10.00am and after 3.00pm or in the shaded areas of the service.

2. Wear appropriate clothing which protects the skin.
   - Children, staff and parents will be expected to wear a broad-brimmed hat, legionnaire style hat, or a bucket hat whenever they are involved in outside activities. Children not wearing an appropriate hat will be expected to play inside.
• Children will be encouraged to wear shirts with covering over the shoulders.

3. From 1st September through to 30th April (which is usually when the UV rating reaches level 3 and above), children will be assisted in independently applying their own sunscreen.

• Parents/caregivers are asked to apply sunscreen to children prior to their session.

• Children who require their own sunscreen will need to be provided with their own individual sunscreen in its original container labelled clearly with their name. This sunscreen will then be stored safely and given out to children when required.

4. Reinforcing the SunSmart message in all service activities and in general service procedures is an important strategy in the adoption of skin protection behaviours.

• Staff will be encouraged to role model appropriate SunSmart strategies in all service activities.

• Skin cancer prevention will be included in appropriate teaching activities.

• Staff will be encouraged to keep up to date with new information and resources from Cancer Council SA.

• Information about the Centre’s SunSmart Policy will be made available to all new staff, students and families.

5. The Echunga Preschool Sun Protection Policy will be evaluated on a two yearly basis.

• Policy issues will be discussed at staff and parent meetings.

For more information please don’t hesitate to contact: Cancer Council Helpline 13 11 20 or visit www.sunsmart.org.au