Policy 2.8 (Health Policy)

**SUNSMART POLICY**

**POLICY STATEMENT:**
Riverton Kindergarten will ensure that all children attending the Centre are protected from skin damage caused by the harmful ultraviolet rays of the sun and are educated in all aspects of appropriate sun safety. When the UV level reaches 3 (moderate) or higher, it is strong enough to cause damage to unprotected skin.

**CONSIDERATIONS:**

**Philosophy**
To promote among children staff and families positive attitudes towards skin protection and lifestyle practices, which can help, reduce the incidence of skin cancer.

**Legislation**
Child Care Centre Regulations 1985 (SA); Public and Environmental Health Act 1987 (SA); Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Act 1986 (SA); Occupational Health, Safety and Welfare Regulations 1986 (SA); Quality Improvement and Accreditation System (Cwth).

**Children**
Need protection from the sun and harmful rays particularly from September to April; instruction about sun safety and correct application of sunscreen; appropriate clothing and sun protection.

**Parents**
Need to feel confident that their child/children are adequately protected from the sun at all times. Parents are encouraged to co-operate in maintaining sun awareness at home and providing adequate sun protection and measures for their children.

**Staff**
Need to be responsible for appropriate sun protection including sun screen and hats; clear guidelines and instructions with regard to enforcing the sun safe policy; to adhere to policies to maintain SunSmart Centre accreditation.

**Management**
Need Staff to maintain appropriate levels of sun awareness and to follow sun protection policies.

**HOW POLICY WILL BE IMPLEMENTED (Specific Policies & Procedures):**

**Children**
- Will be supplied with a broad brimmed hat and a 30+ roll-on sunscreen on enrolment which is to be kept at the centre.
Will be strongly encouraged to wear broad brimmed hats when they are outside from September to April and when the UV index is 3 and above.

Who do not have hats will be asked to play in an area protected from the sun or offered the option of wearing a spare hat.

Will have access to a SPF 30, broad spectrum sunscreen at all times.

Are encouraged to liberally apply sunscreen themselves under adult supervision.

Will have instruction on sun safety as part of the centres program

Need to wear clothing that covers that covers their shoulders. Singlet style tops and dresses and midriff top will not be accepted.

**Parents**

- Will be encouraged to apply an appropriate sunscreen at the beginning of each day, either before arrival at the Centre or on arrival using sunscreen provided at the centre.
- Are recommended to provide children with appropriate clothing. The Centre offers broad brimmed hats and, polo shirts for purchase.
- Will be encouraged to wear appropriate hats and sunscreen whilst at the centre and when joining us on excursions.

**Staff**

- Are strongly encouraged to wear a suitable hat when outside from September to April and when UV index is 3 and above.
- Have access to a SPF 30, broad spectrum sunscreen at all times.
- Will supervise the application of sunscreen by children, assisting where necessary 20 mins prior to outdoor play.
- Should wear clothing that provides suitable sun protection.
- Will monitor the UV index and implement this policy when index is 3 and above.
- Will reinforce and promote SunSmart behaviour to children, and families
- Will take sun safety into consideration when planning excursions where children will be outside for an extended period of time.
- Will be informed of the Sunsmart policy during induction.

**Students, Volunteers and Visitors**

- Will be encouraged to wear appropriate hats and sunscreen whilst at the centre and when joining us on excursions.

**The Environment**

- An assessment of available shade will be undertaken each year to ensure adequate shaded areas are available for play. This includes permanent and temporary shelters and the planting of trees.
- If staff deem the weather to be too hot or the UV index is high activities will be restricted to shaded areas and outdoor time reduced.

**References**

Cancer Council SA May 2010
Children and the Sun; Everybody’s Concern by OMEP, Australia, 1994