



## SKIN PROTECTION POLICY

### Rationale

Elizabeth Park Preschool recognises that Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world, with 2 out of 3 people developing skin cancer before they are 70. Sun Exposure in the first 10 years of life determines the likelihood of skin cancer in later life. Radiation levels of 3 and above can cause damage especially from September to April between 10am and 3pm. This policy will be available for all new staff students and families at the centre.

It has been developed in order to-

- Protect children's skin to help prevent the likelihood of cancer.
- To balance sun protection with safe sun exposure for bone growth and development.

### Aims

The aims of the Elizabeth Park Preschool Skin protection policy are to promote among children, staff, parents and caregivers -

- Positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- Lifestyle practices which can help reduce the incidence of skin cancer
- Personal responsibility for and decision making about skin protection

### Implementation

The preschool will take extra care between 10:00 am and 3:00 pm to minimise children's exposure to UV radiation.

### Shade

- Trees, the shade sail and the cubby house are areas that children will be encouraged to use as they provide shaded areas for outdoor play.
- Sandpit and the veranda play area may be used during these hours.
- Activities conducted in periods of hot weather will be in shaded areas.

### Drinks

- Children will be frequently offered water and have access to water at all times.
- Children will be regularly offered water during hot periods.

### Clothing

Parents are encouraged to dress children in clothing that minimises UV Radiation exposure.

This includes- .

- Hats- Broad Brimmed, Legionnaire or Bucket hats only.
- Shoulders must be covered with sleeves- strapped dresses and tops are not suitable.
- Long style shorts and skirts and recommended.

### Sunscreen

It is advised that prior to coming to preschool that children have sunscreen applied.

Parents are encouraged to supply sunscreen however; bulk sunscreen is available at the service if required.

### Staff Roles and Responsibilities

- Staff are encouraged to role model appropriate sun smart strategies and the sun smart message.

*This policy has been developed in accordance to occupational health and safety requirements.*

Approved by: Governing Council

Review date: August 2015

Next review: Term 3, 2018