

Ultraviolet Rays Protection Policy & Procedure

AIM:

The UV Rays Protection Policy aims to ensure all children and staff are protected from the harmful effects of the sun throughout the year, and that we provide a culture that supports sun safety awareness and practices.

OUR COMMITMENT:

We have a duty of care to provide a safe environment for everyone involved in our activities. Providing a safe environment includes protecting our children and staff from harmful effects of UV radiation.

Whenever and wherever possible, our centre will use the following UV protection measures:

Scheduling Activities

- Schedule outdoor events and/or activities outside peak UV times of 11 a.m. to 3 p.m.
- Consider when possible early morning or evening outings, games and events.

Providing Shade

- Hold activities and events at venues that provide adequate shade.
- Encourage children, staff and visitors to use the shade available, and/or bring their own umbrellas and shade tents.

Hats

- Encourage children and staff to wear recommended sun-safe hats that protect the face, neck and ears.
- Encourage children and staff who do not bring hats to play in a shaded area. Introduce a “no hat, play in the shade” rule.

Clothing

- Encourage children and staff to wear UV-protective clothing that covers as much skin as possible. This includes loose-fitting, long-sleeved shirts and long pants made of densely woven fabric. Any fabric with an UV protection factor (UPF) rating above 15 provides good protection against UV radiation, but UPF50+ is recommended.

Sunscreen

- Ensure sunscreen of at least SPF 30 is available for all children and staff.
- All staff and children should apply sunscreen before going outdoors to do any activities, and reapply every two hours or after getting wet or perspiring.
- Babies under 12 months old should be covered with clothing and kept out of direct sunlight. Sunscreen is not recommended for babies less than six months of age as they can rub it in their eyes and mouth.

Sunglasses

- Encourage children and staff to wear UV-protective sunglasses that cover as much of the eye area as possible whenever they are outdoors.

Education and Resources

- Regularly promote sun safety information to children, staff, parents and guardians.
- Inform staff, volunteers and parents of the Sun Protection Policy every year.

Role Modelling

- Encourage children, leaders, staff and parents to act as positive role models for children in all aspects of sun safe behaviour.

Review

- Monitor and review the effectiveness of the Sun Protection Policy every year to ensure it remains relevant and current.

Signed by: (appropriate signing authority)

Program Director: _____