



# Wesley Out of School Hours Care policy

## Sun Protection

### 1. Purpose

Wesley Out of School Hours Care (Wesley OOSH) is committed to providing children with a safe environment that provides shade and other sun protection to support their learning and opportunities for play in the outdoor environment. We aim to take a sensible approach to sun protection in our service that empowers children to take responsibility for their own health and wellbeing.

### 2. Scope

This policy applies to the staff, children, families and visitors of Wesley OOSH as required by the following Regulations and Standards.

#### National Quality Standard

QA2	2.1	Each child's health and physical activity is supported and promoted
QA3	3.1	The design of the facilities is appropriate for the operation of a service
QA3	3.2	The service environment is inclusive, promotes competence and supports exploration and play-based learning

#### National Regulations(r)

r100	Risk assessment must be conducted before excursion
r114	Outdoor space - shade

#### My Time, Our Place

LO3	Children have a strong sense of wellbeing
LO4	Children transfer and adapt what they learned from one context to another

### 3. Policy statement

Wesley OOSH aims to ensure that all children in attendance at the service are protected from harmful rays of the sun. All staff will model appropriate sun protection behaviour and enforce the sun protection policy.

Evidence suggests that childhood exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation contributes significantly to the development of skin cancer in later life. UV radiation cannot be seen or felt and can be high even on cool and overcast days. This means our educators will teach children not to rely on clear skies or high temperatures to determine the need for sun protection and provide them with resources and materials that will reinforce this message and assist children to understand the complexities of their environment.



Strategies for teaching sun protection in the service will be based on children actively practicing and monitoring their own implementation of sun protection strategies. This will include children having opportunities to access UV alerts and monitoring the exposure to the sun of both themselves and their peers.

Our service believes that educating children about UV radiation will have a major impact on reducing their chance of developing skin cancer in later life.

#### **Related documents and sources**

⇒ NSW Cancer Council sun protection guidelines

#### **4. Principals**

When the UV index is forecast to be 3 or above on any given day, Educators and children will be required to wear protection clothing such as board brimmed hats that cover the face, neck and ears, shirts with sleeves that cover the shoulders (midriff, crop or singlets do not provide adequate protection) and longer style shorts or trousers that cover the legs. Children who do not have a hat will be asked to play in a shaded or covered area. Sunscreen with a sun protection factor (SPF) of 4 and above (either SPF 30+ or higher) will be applied at least 20 mins prior to outdoor play and re-applied every two (2) hours.

When planning outdoor activities, the availability of shade will be considered. Outdoor activities and sun exposure will be minimised between the hours of 10am and 2pm (11am and 3pm during daylight saving) which is when the UV index is at its highest. If required, outdoor play during these hours will be in shaded/covered areas.

#### **5. Responsibility and policy owner**

The policy owner is the General Manager, Wesley Health, Conferences and Education. The owner is responsible for implementing the policy and achieving the desired outcomes. Wesley OOSH staff shall adhere to this policy.

#### **6. Consultation & Approval**

This policy has been developed in consultation with key stakeholders including families and the community, the Head of Wesley Out of School Hours Care, Area Manager/s, Wesley OOSH, Centre Coordinators, Wesley OOSH and the Quality, Risk and Compliance Coordinator, Wesley OOSH.

This policy has been approved by General Manager, Wesley Health, Conferences and Education.