



LAMEROO REGIONAL COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Sun Safe Policy – Preschool

Date approved: March 2026

Review date: 2029

National Quality Standard 2
Regulation 168 (2)(a)(ii)
Related Key Regulation: 114

Rationale

Too much ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun can cause sunburn, skin damage, eye damage, and skin cancer. Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world, with two in three Australians developing some form of skin cancer during their lifetime. Overexposure to the sun during childhood and adolescence is a major cause of skin cancer.

Due to concerns about lack of Vitamin D, children will not have sunscreen reapplied when UV Index levels are below 3.

Aim

To ensure that all children and staff are protected from damaging levels of ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun.

Sun Protection Strategies

All children and staff use sun protection measures whenever the UV Index is 3 and above. Particular care is taken between 10am and 2pm (or 11am and 3pm during daylight saving time), when UV radiation peaks.

Managing the Physical Environment – Shade

- Adequate shelters and trees provide shade in Preschool grounds.
- Shade availability is considered when planning excursions and outdoor activities.
- Children are encouraged to use available shade when outside.
- Children who do not have appropriate outdoor clothing are asked to play in shaded or protected areas.

Protective Behaviours and Practices

Clothing

- Children and staff are encouraged to wear loose-fitting clothing that covers as much skin as possible.

- Tops with elbow-length sleeves, collars if possible, and knee-length or longer shorts are recommended.

Hats

- Children and staff are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck, and ears.
(Note: Baseball caps are not considered appropriate as they do not provide adequate protection.)

Sunscreen

- Parents/caregivers are encouraged to apply a broad-spectrum sunscreen (SPF 30+ or higher) to clean, dry skin 20 minutes before going outdoors, ideally before arriving at preschool.
- Sunscreen is available for reapplication after lunch.
- Parents/caregivers are asked to provide their child's own sunscreen or written consent to use the preschool's sunscreen.

Sources / Further Reading

- Children's Services Act 1996, Section 26: Protection of children from hazards
- Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005, Part 2: Principles for Children
- AS/NZS 4486.1:1997 – Playgrounds and Playground Equipment Part 1: Development, installation, inspection, maintenance, and operation Shade/Sun Protection (Appendix A)
- Department of Human Services: Children's Services Guidelines
[Outdoor play guide for Victorian children's services](#)
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004 Sections 21, 23: Main Duties of Employers; Section 25: Duties of Employees
www.worksafe.vic.gov.au
- SunSmart UV Alert (issued whenever the UV Index reaches 3 and above):
www.sunsmart.com.au or www.bom.gov.au/announcements/uv/

Policy Inclusions

- Slip, Slop, Slap, Seek, Slide (from DECD Inclement Weather Procedure)

Developed: Term 1, 2017