



Sun Protection Policy

Indooroopilly Montessori Children's House
Date: Sept 2006
Dates Reviewed: Feb 2006, Nov 2007, **August 2009**

Policy Statement:

IMCH is committed to reinforcing correct sun safe practises to all of the Centre's community.

Rationale:

Queensland has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. It accounts for around 80% of all new cancers diagnosed each year in Australia. Research indicates that childhood sun exposure is an important contributing factor to the development of skin cancer in later life. As children are in childcare during peak ultraviolet radiation (UVR) times throughout the day, early childhood environments play a major role in both minimising children's UVR exposure and providing an environment where policies and procedures can positively influence long-term behaviour.

Duty of Care

All Children's Services have a legal responsibility to the children, staff and visitors to their site. This duty of care extends to ensuring that services develop and implement appropriate sun protection policies and practices to adequately protect children, staff and visitors from damage caused by sun.

Aims:

The aims are to promote among children, staff and parents:

- ◆ positive attitudes towards skin protection
- ◆ personal responsibility for and decision making about skin protection
- ◆ on-going education to encourage personal responsibility for skin cancer prevention and early protection.

Stakeholder Responsibilities:

1. Management will ensure that:

- ◆ Staff are:
 - Provided with comprehensive procedures which outline the correct practice for protecting the children and themselves whenever in the sun.

- ◆ Parents are:
 - Provided with information detailing the Centre's Sun Protection Policy and advice about their responsibilities. (see Parent Handbook)
- ◆ Children are:
 - Provided with a hat and access to appropriate sunscreen.
- ◆ Visitors are:
 - Advised of the Centre's Policy and are requested to adhere to the procedures.

Checklists to ensure continuous improvement are regularly completed by staff and discussed with Management as necessary.

This Policy is **Reviewed** annually or as required.

2. Staff will:

- ◆ Acquaint themselves with documentation (policies, procedures, guidelines and other relevant information) provided by Management.
- ◆ Carry out their duties in accordance with all Centre Policy and Procedures

3. Parents will:

- ◆ Acquaint themselves with documentation (policies, procedures, guidelines and other relevant information) provided by Management.

4. Visitors will:

- ◆ Comply with the Centre's Policy

All Procedures relevant to this Policy are located at Section 4 of the IMCH WH&S Manual

Sources

Queensland Government Sun Smart Policy
Cancer Foundation

Principle 6.5