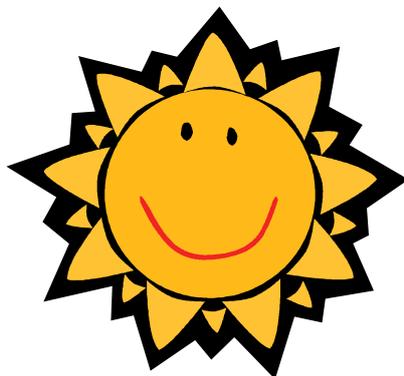


# Pines School Based Preschool Sun Protection Policy



## Policy Rationale

Australia has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world. Research suggests severe sunburn is a contributor to skin cancer and other forms of skin damage, such as wrinkles, sunspots, blemishes and premature ageing. Most skin damage is therefore preventable. Research has also proven that wearing protective clothing (e.g. a hat) and sunscreen can significantly reduce the incidence of skin cancer developing.

Children and staff should be assured of a safe and secure environment. With reference to sun damage, it is clearly evident that encouraging all members of the preschool community to take effective skin-protection measures can reduce the incidence of skin cancer.

The purpose of this policy is to:

- Promote positive attitudes towards skin protection.
- Ensure that all children attending the Pines School Based Preschool are protected from sun damage.
- Encourage personal responsibility for skin protection.

## Skin Protection strategies Hat Policy

- The wearing of a hat outdoors will be compulsory at all times. Children without a hat will be redirected to play inside, in the sandpit or under the verandah.
- It is recommended that children wear a broad brimmed hat or legionnaire hat.
- Hats are to be provided by parents.



- Broad brimmed hats can be bought at the School Office.
- Please ensure all hats are clearly named
- The sharing of hats between children is not encouraged due to health risks
- Staff will model the wearing of hats
- All parents are encouraged to comply with the policy. Parents will be reminded about the policy if their child constantly forgets their hat.

## Clothing.

- It is recommended by the Cancer council that clothing should cover shoulders, arms and protect the back of the neck.



## Sunscreen Policy

- The wearing of high rating broad-spectrum sunscreen (SP30+) is recommended during terms 1 and 4. There will be exceptions according to the weather.
- Parents will be encouraged to apply sunscreen to their child prior to them attending the Preschool. Staff will support children to apply sunscreen at lunch break time.
- Staff will only apply sunscreen to the children whose parents have given written permission.
- Families will supply sunscreen for children who may have a different sensitivity to various creams.
- The sunscreen must be handed to a staff member along with **written permission** for staff to apply sunscreen to their child or to supervise the child applying their sunscreen.
- The preschool will have a supply of Cancer Foundation recommended sunscreen at the centre.

## STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING THIS POLICY

- Staff will be encouraged to act as role models by wearing protective hats and appropriate clothing.

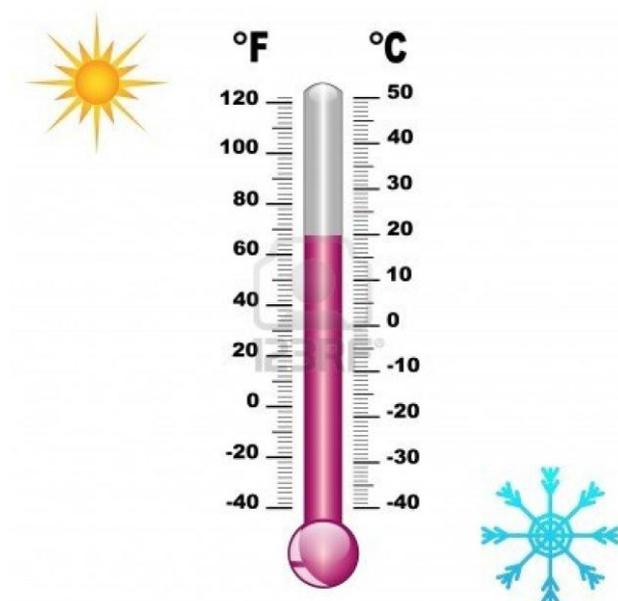
- Where possible staff will set-up outdoor activities in appropriately shaded areas. Staff will seek shade whenever possible during outdoor activities.
- Staff will apply appropriate SPF 30+ broad-spectrum before going outside.
- Staff will include information about the importance of skin protection in the educational program for the children

## PARENT RESPONSIBILITIES REGARDING THIS POLICY



- Parents will be made aware of this policy upon enrolment of their child at the centre.
- Parents will be encouraged to apply an appropriate sunscreen to their child prior to attending the centre.
- Parents will be encouraged to provide appropriate clothing for their child i.e. clothing that protects the skin. It is recommended that clothing should cover shoulders, arms and protect the back of the neck.
- Children attending for a full day, with **parent permission**, will be encouraged to apply sunscreen after lunch. Parents will be encouraged to apply sunscreen before children arrive for half-day sessions.

## HOT WEATHER STRATEGIES.



## On days of extreme heat

If the 7am radio weather forecast for Elizabeth is 36C or above, the hot weather policy of the Pines Schools and Preschool is enforced. In the morning children are encouraged to play in the shaded and sheltered areas and hats are to be worn. In the afternoon children must stay in the air-conditioned preschool.

- Staff and children will take steps to conserve energy and to ensure their fluid levels are maintained.
- Children are to be frequently offered water or fluids.
- Outdoor play is to be monitored and at the discretion of the staff, children may be required to remain inside preschool.
- Parents are to be encouraged to pack food in insulated containers with freezer brick or frozen water.

*Ratified by the Governing Council -7th September 2012*

## Ratification of Policy

This policy has been developed in partnership with the Pines School  
Governing Council and the Pines school Based Preschool

Date Friday 7th September 2012

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_

Signed \_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Position \_\_\_\_\_