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| Policy Title: | Sun Safety and Clothing |
| Effective Date: | 14 th December 2010 |
| Review Date: | As necessary under the Policy and Procedure Development Policy |

POLICY STATEMENT

ICC will ensure that children and staff of the Centre are protected from the potentially harmful effects of the sun, extreme heat and cold and rainy weather. ICC will endeavour to ensure that children and staff are dressed in appropriate clothing and become aware of the harmful effects of the weather and learn to take precautions against these.

BACKGROUND AND CONTEXT

This policy has been developed based on the recommendations of The Cancer Council New South Wales, and more changes regarding hats and clothing and reviews were made after recommendations from SunSmart, Staff Meeting and Management Committee Meeting – in May 2007 and December 2010.

SCOPE AND PURPOSE

It is widely accepted that children are at risk of becoming over exposed to the potentially harmful effect of heat and cold. Prolonged exposure to the sun can cause damage to the body and contribute to many illnesses: skin cancer being one of the more serious. Prolonged exposure to cold and wet weather without appropriate clothing can also lead to illnesses and discomfort. The Centre's program should help the children, staff and parents come to an understanding of the possible effects of exposure to the harmful rays of the sun and cold and wet weather.

POLICY DETAIL/ BUSINESS RULES

Sun protection will be considered when planning excursions and hats must be worn by children, staff and helpers.

In light of Occupational Health & Safety laws we strongly recommend children and staff wear protective and appropriate footwear at the Centre, in order to reduce the risk of injury. Thongs are not considered appropriate footwear.

In accordance with the seasons of the year, the Centre program will ensure that:

- children will be dressed appropriately according to the weather.
- all staff are aware of the changing weather, and will help children change their clothing accordingly, and parents are encouraged provide appropriate clothing every day.
- experiences planned will include removing children, staff and parents from the sun during the daily peak (11am to 3pm), particularly in the summer months.
- at all times during the summer months when children are outside they will be wearing 30+ broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen; applied to all exposed parts of the body.
- at all times during the summer months, children and staff outside will be encouraged to wear hats, sleeved T-shirts, and sunglasses if possible.
- SunSmart hats (these include: broad brimmed, bucket style and legionnaires – no cords due to choking hazard) will be worn at all times throughout the year when outside by both children and staff (until the yard is totally shaded in the late afternoon).

