

4.7 Sun Protection Policy

1. Purpose

My Place Family Day Care recognises that Queensland has the highest incidence of skin cancer in the world. Two out of three Australians will develop skin cancer in their lifetime. Over exposure to the sun during childhood and adolescence is a major factor in the development of skin cancer. As children, staff and Educators spend a portion of their day outdoors, the Service is committed to protecting them from the harmful effects of the sun.

Children's skin is thinner and is particularly vulnerable to ultraviolet radiation (UVR) damage and intense exposure significantly increases the risk of developing melanoma.

Research demonstrates that people who experience five or more sunburns in childhood or adolescence more than double their risk of developing melanoma.

2. Scope

This policy applies to Family Day Care Educators, Educator Assistants, regular visitors, Family Day Care Co-ordination Unit staff members, educator family members, students, parents, children (including visiting children) and volunteers.

3. Definitions

Approved Provider: Inala Community House (ICH) has approval from the Federal Government to operate an approved FDC service.

Service: My Place Family Day Care, whose Approved Provider is Inala Community House.

Parent/Guardian: The person responsible for the payment of fees and who is paid the Child Care Subsidy. **PLEASE NOTE: this does not include a parent who is prohibited by a court order from having contact with the child.**

Authorised Nominee: in relation to a child, means a person who has been given permission by a parent or guardian to collect the child from the FDC Educator.

Educator: A suitably qualified person who is registered with the Service.

Educator's Residence – The home or venue approved to provide childcare by an approved Educator of the Service.

Ultraviolet (UV) index levels: The UV index measures UVR on a scale of 1 to 11 and beyond. The higher the number, the stronger the radiation and the faster skin will burn. Queensland's UV Index is 3 or higher year-round. Children and adults are at risk of skin damage when the UV Index is 3 or above.

4. Policy

My Place Family Day Care acknowledges the significant role the Service plays in minimising a child's UV exposure as children attend care when UV radiation levels are the highest. Family Day Care Educators will protect children from the dangerous and adverse effects of sun exposure.

Educators, Educator Assistants, regular visitors, staff members, Educator's family members, students, and volunteers will role model appropriate practices when with the children in their care.

4.1 Implement Sun Protection Strategies

Educators will apply sun protection strategies year-round.

Extra sun protection is needed between 10am and 3pm. During this period outdoor activities without direct shade should be minimised.

Educators will minimise outdoor activities including reducing both the number of times and the length of time children are outside

4.2 Assessment of Available Shade

The Service will ensure the Educator's residence has outdoor shade available.

Educators will give consideration to the availability of shade when assessing risk to children attending an excursion.

5. Review

This policy remains in effect unless otherwise determined by resolution of the Board of Directors. This policy will be reviewed every two years or sooner as required.

	Date	Details
Revision 00	07/2015	Original Policy Issued
Revision 01	12/2016	Reviewed
Revision 02	08/2017	Reviewed
Revision 03	12/2019	Reviewed
Revision 04	01/2021	Reviewed

6. Related Documents

Policies

6.1 Child Safe Environment

Procedures

4.27 Sun Safe Practices

6.1 Assessment of the Educator's Residence

References

Refer to the Cancer Council website for the Factsheet on Be Sun Smart at:

http://www.cancer.org.au/Healthprofessionals/patientfactsheets/Lifestyle/Be_sunsmart.htm

Cancer Council Queensland: Sun Protection: <https://cancerqld.org.au/cancer-prevention/understanding-risk/sun-protection/>

Queensland Health, Sun safety in Queensland - <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/industry-environment/environment-land-water/shade/sun/sun-safety>

ACECQA. Guide to National Quality Framework, 2018 National Quality Standard Quality Area 3: Physical Environment 3.1: Design: The design of the facilities is appropriate for the operation of a service.

3.1.1 Outdoor and indoor spaces, building, fixtures and fittings are suitable for their purpose, including supporting the access of every child.

Education and Care Services National Regulation 2011

R.168 (2) (a) (ii) Education and Care service must have policies and procedures