

Policy: QA2.12	<h2>Sun Protection</h2>
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**Policy Statement:**

Exposure to UV radiation can lead to sunburn, skin / eye damage and skin cancer later in life. Children are more vulnerable to UV damage early in life due to lower levels of Melanin in their skin. Pinnacle Preschool is committed to providing a sun safe environment for all children, families, staff, volunteers and visitors. Pinnacle Preschool recognises the important role early education plays in teaching children to be independent and responsible to use adequate sun protection practices throughout their lives. Pinnacle Preschool also acknowledges the important of sun safe practices starting in early childhood to reduce later risk of skin cancer and associated conditions.

This policy relates to the requirements outlined in the Education and Care Services National Regulations and is guided by the Cancer Council of Australia's recommendations for sun safe practices in early childhood.

<b>Responsibilities and delegations:</b>	
This policy applies to	This policy applies to Pinnacle Preschool staff, volunteers, visitors and families.
Specific responsibilities	This policy is developed by the CEO and reviewed by Pinnacle Preschool staff and Board of Directors. It is communicated and implemented by the CEO and staff.
Policy approval	ODEEP CEO

<b>Policy context – this policy relates to:</b>	
Legislation	Children (Education and Care Services) National Law NSW 2010 167 Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011 100, 113, 114, 168
Standards	<b>National Quality Standards:</b> Quality Area 2 : Children's Health and Safety 2.2, 2.2.1 <b>Early Years Learning Framework:</b> Outcome 3: Children have a strong sense of wellbeing <i>Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing</i>
Organisation policies	Children's Health and Safety
Forms, record keeping, other documents	Pinnacle Preschool Sunscreen checklist



## **Procedures:**

### **Pinnacle Preschool Management:**

- Pinnacle Preschool management and the Board of Directors are responsible for providing adequate shade and shelter in the outdoor area. This shade will be regularly reviewed and maintained as necessary. Provision will be made to replace shaded and shelter area regularly.
- Pinnacle Preschool will maintain a 'no hat, no play' policy for the outdoor environment when the UV factor is over 3. An alternate play space will be provided for these children.
- A broad spectrum, 50+ SPF sunscreen will be provided by management of Pinnacle Preschool and accessible for use by children, families, educators, visitors and volunteers. Pinnacle Preschool Staff will monitor the sunscreen's expiration date as part of the Pinnacle Preschool First Aid six monthly checks.
- Sun protection practices, information and appropriate resources will be included in preschool newsletters, on the Facebook page, website and as printed information in the physical environment.

### **Pinnacle Preschool staff:**

- Pinnacle Preschool Staff will incorporate sun protection information in the preschool environment and in the preschool program. Children will be given the opportunity to learn the principles of being independently sun safe and these practices will be role modelled by educators on a daily basis.
- Pinnacle Preschool staff, authorised visitors and volunteers will be required to wear a broad brimmed hat, broad spectrum sunscreen with a SPF 50+ rating, seek shade and wear sunglasses when practical.
- A sunscreen station will be provided within the preschool classroom where families and educators can assist children to apply their own sunscreen. A mirror, tissues and bin will be provided.
- The availability of shade and shelter will be considered by Pinnacle Preschool Staff when planning any outdoor activity. The Sun Smart UV Levels Widget will be used, on the Cancer Council or Sun Smart website, to ascertain the UV level and full sun protection methods will be utilised when the UV factor is over 3.
- Pinnacle Preschool staff will place learning experiences in shaded areas whenever possible.

### **Pinnacle Preschool families:**

- On enrolment at Pinnacle Preschool, families will be provided with access to the Sun Protection Policy and agree to purchase or provide a sun safe, broad brimmed hat each day for their child, sunglasses if desired and supply appropriate clothing for their child to protect as much skin as possible from the sun.
- Families will be required to assist their child with the first application of sunscreen when the UV levels are above three. Families will be informed of this procedure on enrolment. In the cooler months, where the UV level is below 3, the preschool will notify parents if sunscreen is not required for outdoor play.
- Families will be encouraged to follow sun safe practices when attending events at the preschool.



**Pinnacle Preschool children:**

- Children will be encouraged to seek shade when playing outdoors.
- Children will be encouraged to wear loose fitted clothing that covers as much skin as possible. Children are discouraged from wearing singlet style clothing. If this clothing is worn, staff will encourage the child to wear or lend clothing to cover their shoulders when outside.
- Children are required to wear a broad brimmed hat when playing outside when the UV level is above 3.
- Children will be required to wear a SPF 50+ Sunscreen 20 minutes before playing outside. This will be supplied by the preschool to be reapplied every 2 hours or sooner if the manufacturer recommends it. All children will be encouraged to apply their own sunscreen with supervision and assistance from staff.
- Children will be allowed to wear close fitting, wrap-around sunglasses when supplied by families.
- Children will have the opportunity to engage in research, discussions and learning experiences relating to sun safety.

**Policy Disclaimer:**

This policy will be reviewed to ensure compliance with legislation and industry changes. This will occur at any time that is required, or a minimum of every two years. In accordance with Regulation 172 of the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011, parents / guardians of enrolled children will be notified at least 14 days prior to a change in any policy or procedure referred to in Regulation 168 that may have a significant impact on the provision of education, fees or the family’s access to the service.

<b>Record of policy development:</b>		
<b>Version</b>	<b>Date approved</b>	<b>Date for review</b>
Version 1	1 September 2019	September 2021
Version 2	12 May 2022	12 May 2023