



SUN PROTECTION POLICY

SUB CATEGORY: Health, Hygiene and Safety

POLICY GOAL

To minimise the exposure to harmful UV radiation to all children and adults at the service. To promote a positive attitude towards sun protection in children from an early age to protect them throughout life.

RATIONALE

“Approximately, two in three Australians will be diagnosed with skin cancer by the time they are 70. Non-melanoma skin cancer is more common in men, with almost double the incidence compared to women. Excluding non-melanoma skin cancer, melanoma is the third most common cancer in Australians. In 2015, 13,694 Australians were diagnosed with melanoma.

Every year, in Australia:

- *skin cancers account for around 80% of all newly diagnosed cancers*
- *the majority of skin cancers are caused by exposure to the sun*
- *GPs have over 1 million patient consultations per year for skin cancer*
- *the incidence of skin cancer is one of the highest in the world, two to three times the rates in Canada, the US and the UK.*

In 2016, 1960 people died from skin cancer in Australia, 1281 from melanoma and 679 from non-melanoma skin cancers.”¹

“Too much of the sun’s UV radiation can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Infants and toddlers up to four years of age are particularly vulnerable to UV damage due to lower levels of melanin and a thinner stratum corneum (the outermost layer of skin). UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is strongly associated with an increased risk of skin cancer later in life.

- *By teaching sensible sun protection habits from an early age and implementing best-practice sun protection measures, early childhood services can play a significant role toward reducing the lifetime risk of skin cancer.*
- *To assist with the implementation of this policy, educators and children are encouraged to access their local sun protection times via the SunSmart widget on the service’s website, the free SunSmart app, myUV.com.au or at Bureau of Meteorology.*
- *The sun protection measures listed are used for all outdoor activities during the daily local sun protection times, when the UV Index is 3 or above. The sun protection times are a forecast from the Bureau of Meteorology for the time of day UV levels are forecast to reach 3 or higher. At these levels, sun protection is recommended for all skin types.*

Special Note Regarding Infants

SunSmart practices consider the special needs of infants. All babies under 12 months are kept out of direct sun when UV levels are 3 or higher. Physical protection such as shade, clothing and broad-brimmed hats are the best sun protection measures. If babies are kept out of the sun or well protected from UV radiation by clothing, hats and shade, then sunscreen need only be used

¹ Cancer Council Australia website (accessed on-line April 2020)

<https://www.cancer.org.au/preventing-cancer/sun-protection/about-skin-cancer.html>

occasionally on very small areas of a baby's skin. The widespread use of sunscreen on babies under 6 months old is not recommended.

*Additional sun protection measures must be adhered to in accordance with the following recommendations for **Queensland** - This policy is implemented all year round. Wherever practicable, outdoor activities should take place before 10am and after 3pm, when UV levels are lower. As the UV level is often above three outside of peak UV periods, the UV level must be checked daily to ascertain when sun protection is required outside of peak UV periods. Multiple sun protection is required whenever the UV index level is forecast to reach three or above. In Queensland, the UV Index is usually at three or above all year around.*

1. Seek shade

- *Management makes sure there is a sufficient number of shelters and trees providing shade in the outdoor area particularly in high-use areas.*
- *The availability of shade is considered when planning all outdoor activities.*
- *Children are encouraged to choose and use available areas of shade when outside.*
- *Play activities will be set up in the shade and moved throughout the day to take advantage of shade patterns.*
- *Children who do not have appropriate hats or outdoor clothing are asked to choose a shady play space or a suitable area protected from the sun.*
- *In consultation with the service's committee, shade provision is considered in future plans and upgrades.*
- *A shade assessment is conducted regularly to determine the current availability and quality of shade.*

2. Slip on sun-protective clothing

Children are required to wear loose-fitting clothing that covers as much skin as possible. Clothing made from cool, densely woven fabric is recommended. Families are asked to choose tops with elbow-length sleeves, higher necklines (or collars) and knee-length or longer style shorts and skirts for their child. If a child is wearing a singlet top or shoestring dress, they will be asked to choose a t-shirt/shirt to wear over this before going outdoors.

3. Slap on a hat

All children are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears (legionnaire, broad-brimmed or bucket style). Peak caps and visors are not considered a suitable alternative.

4. Slop on sunscreen

- *SPF30 (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen is supplied by the service and/or families.*
- *Sunscreen is applied in accordance with the manufacturer's directions (which state to apply at least 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapply every two hours, or more frequently if sweating or swimming).*
- *To help develop independent skills ready for school, children from three years of age are given opportunities to apply their own sunscreen under supervision of staff, and are encouraged to do so.*
- *Sunscreen is stored in a cool place, out of the sun and the expiry date is monitored.*

5. Slide on sunglasses [if practical]

Where practical, children are encouraged to wear close-fitting, wrap-around sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible.

Learning and skills

Sun protection is incorporated into the learning and development program.

The SunSmart policy is reinforced by educators and through children's activities and displays.

Educators are encouraged to complete Cancer Council's free Generation SunSmart online learning modules.

Engaging children, educators, staff and families

Educators, staff and families are provided with information about sun protection through family newsletters, service handbook, noticeboards and the service's website.

When enrolling their child, families are:

informed of the service's <insert policy name> policy;

asked to provide a suitable sun protective hat, covering clothing and sunscreen for their child;

required to give permission for educators to apply sunscreen to their child; and

encouraged to use SunSmart measures themselves when at the service.

As part of WH&S UV risk controls and role-modelling, educators, staff and visitors:

- *wear a suitable sun-protective hat, covering clothing and, if practical, sunglasses;*
- *apply sunscreen; and*
- *seek shade whenever possible.”²*

“Early childhood sun safety

It is important to protect children's skin from UVR exposure every day in Queensland, as the [UV Index](#) is three or higher year-round and is high to extreme for much of the year.

Children and young people's skin is very susceptible to UVR damage and sustaining five or more severe sunburns in this critical period more than double melanoma risk.

Reducing sun exposure in childhood is the most effective way of reducing the risk of developing skin cancer later in life. The early childhood education and care setting provides an appropriate opportunity to influence positive sun safe behaviour and establish the use of daily life long sun protection practices.

Ensure your centre or school approaches sun safety in an integrated and multi-strategic way, with links between policy, curriculum, and environment.”³

*“UV radiation is an invisible danger because we can't see or feel it. Each time your skin is exposed to UV radiation, the skin cells and how they behave is affected. Overexposure to UV radiation from the sun or **solarium use causes** permanent damage that adds up over time. Protecting your skin from the sun and other forms of UV exposure is important at any age, but sun protection is especially important during childhood and adolescence.*

Sun protection is required when the UV levels reach 3 and above. In Queensland, sun protection is required all year, even in winter, due to consistently high UV levels. Download the free SunSmart app on [IOS](#) or [Android](#) to access a free daily UV alert.

² “National SunSmart early childhood sun protection policy template” Cancer Council (accessed on-line April 2020) <https://www.cancer.org.au/preventing-cancer/sun-protection/sunsmart-schools/>

³ “Early Childhood sun safety” Queensland Health Website (accessed on-line April 2020) <https://www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/schools/sun/early-childhood>

To minimise your skin cancer risk protect your skin every day with a combination of these five steps:



Slip on protective clothing that:

- Covers as much skin as possible, for example, shirts with long sleeves and high necks/collars.
- Is made from close weave materials such as cotton, polyester/cotton and linen.
- Is dark in colour to absorb UV radiation (white and lighter colours reflect UV radiation onto skin).
- If used for swimming, is made from materials such as lycra, which stays sun protective when wet.

Slop on SPF30 or higher sunscreen that is:

- Broad spectrum and water resistant.
- Applied liberally to clean, dry skin at least 20 minutes before going outside.
- Reapplied every two hours.
- Used with other forms of protection such as hats and shade.

Slap on a hat that is:

- Broad-brimmed and provides good protection for the face, nose, neck and ears, which are common sites for skin cancers (caps and visors do not provide adequate protection).
- Made with closely woven fabric – if you can see through it, UV radiation will get through.
- Worn with sunglasses and sunscreen to increase your level of protection.

Seek shade by:

- Making use of trees or built shade structures or bring your own pop-up tent or umbrellas.
- Making sure your shade structure casts a dark shadow and using other protection (such as clothing, hats, sunglasses and sunscreen) to avoid reflected UV radiation from nearby surfaces.

Slide on sunglasses:

- That are close-fitting wrap-around style that meet the Australian Standard AS 1067 and provide an Eye Protection Factor (EPF) of 9 or above.
- With a broad-brimmed hat to reduce UV radiation exposure to the eyes by up to 98 per cent.
- To children as well as adults.”⁴

Adults

In addition to the protection of children, our service has a duty of care to all employees and visitors. State Occupational Health and Safety Acts require employers to provide and maintain safe working environments. Employers must ensure their employees can work safely and without risk to their health - this includes exposure to UV radiation. In turn, employees have a responsibility for their own safety and health and must follow UV protection policies and use sun protective measures provided.

“Those who spend all or part of the day regularly working outdoors are at increased risk of skin cancer. This is because the sun’s ultraviolet (UV) radiation is the major cause of skin cancer, including melanoma. All skin tones can be damaged by exposure to UV radiation. Damage is permanent, irreversible and increases with each exposure. Both high intensity and low intensity UV radiation exposure has been linked to an increased risk of skin cancer. Under Australian workplace health and safety legislation, employers must take steps to protect workers from harmful levels of exposure to UV radiation, and reduce the risk of skin cancer”⁵

⁴ “Sun Protection” Cancer Council Queensland (accessed on-line April 2020)

<https://cancerqld.org.au/cancer-prevention/understanding-risk/sun-protection/>

⁵ “Skin Cancer and Outdoor Work – A Work Health and Safety Guide” Cancer Council (accessed on-line April 2020)

<https://www.cancercouncil.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Skin-cancer-and-outdoor-work-booklet-Oct2018-v2.pdf>

“Employers can create a sun safe environment for their workers by controlling exposure to UV radiation with a comprehensive sun safety policy. Ways of controlling exposure include:

- provide shaded areas or temporary shade*
- encourage workers to move jobs to shaded areas*
- apply window tinting to work vehicles*
- modify reflective surfaces*
- identify and minimise contact with photosensitising substances*
- provide indoor areas or shaded outdoor areas for rest and meal breaks*
- schedule outdoor work tasks to occur when levels of solar UV radiation are less intense e.g. earlier in the morning or later in the afternoon*
- schedule indoor and shaded work tasks to occur when levels of solar UV radiation are strongest e.g. in the middle of the day*
- encourage workers to rotate between indoor, shaded and outdoor tasks to avoid exposure to solar UV radiation for long periods of time*
- provide daily access to the SunSmart UV Alert or UV index*
- provide personal protective equipment (PPE) and ensure it is used effectively*

Personal protection

Avoiding overexposure to ultraviolet radiation (UVR) is the best way to prevent skin cancer. Follow these simple steps:

- *minimise time in the sun between 10 am and 3 pm*
- *slip on clothing*
- *slop on SPF 30+ sunscreen*
- *slap on a hat*
- *seek shade*
- *slide on sunglasses.”⁶*

National Quality Framework

“The approved provider must ensure adequate shading over areas for both active and passive outdoor play. Shade may be provided by large trees, heavy shade cloths and solid roofs. The approved provider must ensure policies and procedures are in place in relation to sun protection.”⁷

IMPLEMENTATION

- Sun protection methods are required at all times when UV indexes are 3 or above, educators must monitor the UV levels daily, this can be done using a variety of methods:
 - Download the free widget
<http://www.sunsmart.com.au/uv-sun-protection/uv/uv-widget>
 - use the free sunsmart APP
<http://www.sunsmart.com.au/tools/interactive-tools/free-sunsmart-app>
 - refer to the local paper or visit www.bom.gov.au
- All sun protection measures will be considered when planning excursions and all events held at the centre, this will be documented and included in the Excursion Risk Management Plan.

Shade

⁶ “Sun Safety for Outdoor Workers” Workcover Qld (accessed on-line April 2020)

<https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/tourism/articles/sun-safety-for-outdoor-workers>

⁷ “Guide to the National Quality Framework” Australian Children’s Education & Care Quality Authority October 2018

Sun Protection Policy QLD V2020.1

- Activities will be set up in shaded areas and moved throughout the day to take advantage of shade patterns.
- Our outdoor playgrounds provide shaded areas for children to play to reduce their exposure to ultraviolet radiation.
- Educators must assess the available shade at different times of day and year. Shade can be natural, built or a combination of both.
- The Nominated Supervisor in consultation with educators should do an assessment of shade at least every 3yrs or when changes occur to the outdoor environment. A guide can be found at Qld Health https://www.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0027/443745/shade-needs-assessment-guide.pdf or use the SunSmart audit tool <http://www.sunsmart.com.au/shade-audit/>

Hats

- Staff, educators and children are required to wear sun-safe hats that protect their face, neck and ears.
- Sun-safe hats include:
 - bucket hats with a deep crown and brim size of at least 5cm (adults 6cm)
 - broad-brimmed hats with a brim size of at least 6cm (adults 7.5cm)
 - legionnaire style hats.
- Please note: Baseball caps or visors are not sun-safe hats.
- Children without a sun-safe hat are required to play in an area protected from the sun (e.g. under shade, veranda or indoors) or will be provided with a spare hat.

Due to the fact that children and educators are regularly outdoors each day for prolonged periods, hats should be worn by children and adults at all times when outdoors, not just during peak UV periods. This helps to form healthy habits and makes hat wearing part of the daily routine

Clothing

Staff, educators and children are required to wear sun-safe clothing that covers as much of the skin (especially the shoulders, back and stomach) as possible. This includes wearing:

- loose fitting shirts and dresses with sleeves and collars or covered neckline
- longer style skirts, shorts and trousers
- Please note: Midriff, crop or singlet tops are not sun-safe clothing.
- Children without sun-safe clothing are required to play in an area protected from the sun (e.g. under shade, veranda or indoors) or will be provided with spare clothing to put over the top of their clothes.
- Educators should support families by sharing SunSmart education with children and families.

Sunscreen

- Where sunscreen is supplied by the service, families should be informed of the brand.
- Educators will ensure a water-resistant sunscreen with a Sun Protection Factor (SPF) of 30+ is applied to every child at least 20mins before any outdoor session and then reapplied every 2hrs.
- Sunscreen should be applied liberally to clean, dry skin. Ensure sunscreen is applied lightly – don't rub it in.
- Educators should use a separate tissue or cotton wool ball to apply the sunscreen to individual younger children's faces to prevent the spread of germs from skin, noses, mouths, ears and eyes.
- Children over 3yrs of age will be encouraged to apply their own sunscreen and educators will supervise to ensure effective application
- Families are to be encouraged to apply sunscreen prior to attending care in the morning and educators will check if it is applied upon arrival. If not applied, they will direct families to the sunscreen or apply to the child themselves.

Sun Protection Policy QLD V2020.1

- Sunscreen application must be monitored by educators, this may be done using a Sunscreen Register, stamp system or similar strategy.
- Educators will monitor sunscreen expiry dates.
- Permission for the application of sunscreen will be sought on children's enrolment forms.
- Where families wish to use alternative sunscreen for their child this should be supplied and clearly labelled.

Role Modelling

- All adults should act as role models for children in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour by:
 - Wearing appropriate hats, sunglasses, shoes and clothing for all outdoor activities
 - Using SPF 30+ or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen
 - Seeking shade whenever possible
 - Consistently ensure that children who are not wearing hats play in shaded areas

Environments and exposure to the sun

- Before children enter the playspaces that have been exposed to the sun during the day, use a thermometer to check the temperature of the playground surface, including artificial grass, mats, decks and climbing equipment. Alternatively, hold your hand just above the surface to determine if the playground surface is too hot. If the surface temperature feels too hot or is 50° or more, it is too hot for play. It may be cooled by, turning mats over, using a hose or damp cloth or placing a mat or other item over a surface.
- The best way to avoid equipment heating up during the day is to move it to the shade when not in use.

Education and Supporting Children

- All adults should act as role models for children in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour by:
 - Wearing appropriate hats, sunglasses, shoes and appropriate clothing for all outdoor activities at all times when outdoors unless under solid shade such as verandahs
 - Using SPF 30+ or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen
 - Seeking shade whenever possible
 - Consistently ensure that children who are not wearing hats play in heavily shaded areas
- Educators should;
 - support children to take responsibility for their own sun protection and to minimise their exposure to the sun
 - direct children to use shaded areas where possible
 - educate children on the dangers of sun exposure and strategies to minimize the risks.
 - set up outdoor activities in shade areas where possible
 - pack equipment that may become hot during the middle of the day undercover when not in use.
 - ensure that where possible equipment is left in shaded areas during the day to reduce the risk of burns when children come out to play in the afternoon. Educators are responsible for checking equipment when children return to playgrounds.
 - discuss sun safety with children and incorporate into learning programs
 - ensure Sun protection is incorporated into the learning and development program.
 - provide families with information on Sun Safety and vitamin D in newsletters and through information available at the centre.
 - involve families and in the use of the UV alert apps and websites

Relevant resources

- **SunSmart UV Alert:** available as a free SunSmart app, online (www.sunsmart.com.au or www.bom.gov.au/weather/uv), in the weather section of newspapers, or as a free widget

- **Be SunSmart, Play SunSmart** by Anne Stonehouse Includes suggested play experiences to help encourage children to play the SunSmart way and incorporates concepts from the new learning and development frameworks. (See link below.)
- **Songs, video clips, online learning modules and suggested play experiences** available from <https://www.sunsmart.com.au/communities/early-childhood-schools/resources-schools-early-childhood/early-childhood-resources>
- **Create your own SunSmart poster:** online SunSmart poster templates where children choose the scene, text, upload an image of their own face to place into the scene and print off their very own poster with them as the SunSmart star. There are sun protection, vitamin D and snow posters to choose from <https://www.sunsmart.com.au/communities/early-childhood-schools/resources-schools-early-childhood/early-childhood-resources>
- **SunSmart UV Alert:** The SunSmart UV Alert indicates daily weather forecasts including temperature, local UV levels and times sun protection is or isn't needed. This is available in the weather section of the newspaper, on the SunSmart website at www.sunsmart.com.au as a free smart phone app or as a widget that you can add to your website.
- **Online shade audit** <http://www.sunsmart.com.au/shade-audit/>

In Summary

- Educators should;
 - support children to take responsibility for their own sun protection and to minimise their exposure to the sun
 - schedule activities for times as recommended
 - direct children to use shaded areas where possible
 - educate children on the dangers of sun exposure and strategies to minimize the risks.
 - set up outdoor activities in shade areas where possible
 - pack equipment that may become hot during the middle of the day undercover when not in use.
 - ensure that where possible equipment is left in shaded areas during the day to reduce the risk of burns when children come out to play in the afternoon. Educators are responsible for checking equipment when children return to playgrounds.
 - discuss sun safety with children and incorporate into learning programs
- Families will be required to provide clothing for children that provides protection from the Ultra Violet rays of the sun including, but not limited to;
 - clothing that covers the shoulders and arms, preferably with a collar and sleeves. Loose fitting shirts and longer-style skirts, shorts and trousers are recommended. Midriff, crop or singlet tops are not encouraged.
 - sunglasses for children where appropriate.
 - a wide-brimmed, bucket or legionnaire hat
- Babies under 12 months will be kept in out of direct sunlight, wear sun-safe hats and clothing, and have small amounts of SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen applied to exposed skin when necessary.
- Sun protection messages are incorporated into the learning program for all children
- Families are provided with information on Sun Safety in newsletters and through information available at the centre.

COMMUNICATION AND CONSULTATION

- Educators and families will have access to this policy at all times.
- Educators and families will be provided with opportunities to be involved in the review of this policy.

- Upon enrolment families will be advised about the requirement for children to wear the appropriate hat and sunscreen at the service.
- Families will be provided with information on sun safety through a variety of methods including the availability of brochures, displays and newsletter articles
- Educators, students and volunteers will be advised about aspects of this policy upon commencement.

RELATED FORMS AND DOCUMENTS

- Induction Form
- Orientation Checklist
- Sunscreen Record Sheets
- Staff Annual Induction Refresher
- Excursion Risk Management Plan
- Shade audits

SCOPE AND ENFORCEMENT

The failure of any person to comply with this policy in its entirety may lead to;

- Termination of child enrolment
- Performance management of an employee which may lead to termination

RECOGNISED AUTHORITIES AND DOCUMENTS WHICH GUIDE POLICY

- “Sun Protection” Cancer Council Queensland (accessed on-line April 2020)
<https://cancerqld.org.au/cancer-prevention/understanding-risk/sun-protection/>
- Cancer Council Australia website (accessed on-line April 2020)
<https://www.cancer.org.au/preventing-cancer/sun-protection/about-skin-cancer.html>
- “Shade Needs Assessment: Step by Step Guide” QLD Health (accessed on-line April 2020)
https://www.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0027/443745/shade-needs-assessment-guide.pdf
- “Skin Cancer and Outdoor Work – A Work Health and Safety Guide” Cancer Council (accessed on-line April 2020)
<https://www.cancercouncil.com.au/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Skin-cancer-and-outdoor-work-booklet-Oct2018-v2.pdf>
- “Sun Safety for Outdoor Workers” Workcover Qld (accessed on-line April 2020)
<https://www.worksafe.qld.gov.au/tourism/articles/sun-safety-for-outdoor-workers>
- “Early Childhood sun safety” Queensland Health Website (accessed on-line March 2019)
<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/schools/sun/early-childhood>
- “Guide to the National Quality Framework” Australian Children’s Education & Care Quality Authority January 2020
- “National SunSmart early childhood sun protection policy template” Cancer Council (accessed on-line April 2020)
<https://www.cancer.org.au/preventing-cancer/sun-protection/sunsmart-schools/>
- “Early Childhood sun safety” Queensland Health Website (accessed on-line April 2020)
<https://www.health.qld.gov.au/public-health/schools/sun/early-childhood>
- Resources Cancer Council (accessed on-line April 2020)
<https://www.sunsmart.com.au/communities/early-childhood-schools/resources-schools-early-childhood/early-childhood-resources>

DATE CREATED: November 2011

REVIEW DETAILS:

Review Date	Details of Changes
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January 2013	Separated QLD policy. Inclusion of additional implementation points including more direction on sun safe clothing, excursion planning and incorporating sun safety into programs.
January 2014	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Cancer Council Early Childhood Policy Guidelines were updated in July 2013. This policy reflects those changes, including; <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Outdoor activities are to be avoided around the midday hours when UV levels are highest. ○ Educators should refer to the UV rating at www.bom.gov.au or using the Cancer Council SunSmart App. When UV levels are forecast to reach 3 or above multiple sun protection methods are required. ○ Children without hats or with caps will be directed to play in shaded areas to protect them from the sun. ○ Babies under 12mths should not be exposed to direct sunlight. Small amounts of SPF30 or higher sunscreen may be applied to their exposed skin if direct exposure is unavoidable ● Sources updated
May 2015	No changes made, sources updated where applicable
April 2016	No changes made, sources updated where applicable
May 2017	<p>Updated sources</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Added the following forms as related: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Staff Annual Induction Refresher ○ Excursion Risk Management Plan ● Due to the fact that children and educators are regularly outdoors each day for prolonged periods, hats should be worn by children and adults at all times when outdoors, not just during peak UV periods. This helps to form healthy habits and makes hat wearing part of the daily routine. ● Children over 3yrs of age will be encouraged to apply their own sunscreen and educators will supervise to ensure effective application ● All adults should act as role models for children in all aspects of SunSmart behaviour by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Wearing appropriate hats, sunglasses, shoes and clothing for all outdoor activities ○ Using SPF 30+ or higher, broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen ○ Seeking shade whenever possible ● Re-application of sunscreen required every 2hrs when outdoors ● All sun protection measures will be considered when planning excursions and all events held at the centre, this will be documented and included in the Excursion Risk Management Plan. ● The Nominated Supervisor in consultation with educators should do an assessment of shade at least every 3yrs or when changes occur to the outdoor environment. A guide can be found at Qld Health https://www.health.qld.gov.au/_data/assets/pdf_file/0027/443745/shade-needs-assessment-guide.pdf ● new layout in implementation under categories ● information on sun protection for workers included
May 2018	<p>Updated sources, quotes in Rationale and weblinks</p> <p>Added to Implementation:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● sun protection required changed from over 3 to “3 or above” as per Cancer Council recommendations

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● New SunSmart shade audit tool http://www.sunsmart.com.au/shade-audit/ ● Inserted “Education and Supporting Children” including resources section to Implementation ● Inserted Environments and exposure to the sun <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Before children enter the playspaces that have been exposed to the sun during the day, use a thermometer to check the temperature of the playground surface, including artificial grass, mats, decks and climbing equipment. Alternatively, hold your hand just above the surface to determine if the playground surface is too hot. If the surface temperature feels too hot or is 50° or more, it is too hot for play. It may be cooled by, turning mats over, using a hose or damp cloth or placing a mat or other item over a surface. ○ The best way to avoid equipment heating up during the day is to move it to the shade when not in use.
<p>March 2019</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Updated sources and links. ● Additional quotes regarding staff and sun protection in Rationale
<p>April 2020</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Updated sources and weblinks ● Considerable changes to quotes in Rationale as per changes to recognised authorities’ websites. ● Added shade audits to related forms and documents