



# Lake Boga Primary School OSHC

*'Be the best that we can be'*

## Health and Safety Policies

Lake Boga Primary School OSHC strives to provide a safe, clean and healthy environment where safety and hygiene procedures are always practised to promote and support the health, wellbeing and safety of children.

### Sun Protection Policy

**Rationale:** Too much of the sun's UV can cause sunburn, skin and eye damage and skin cancer. UV damage accumulated during childhood and adolescence is associated with an increased risk of skin cancer in later life. The Lake Boga PS OSHC Sun Protection policy has been developed to ensure that all children attending Lake Boga Primary School OSHC are protected from skin damage caused by harmful ultra-violet rays of the sun.

**Purpose:** This Policy will provide guidelines to ensure:

- All children, educators and staff are protected from over-exposure to UV radiation
- The outdoor environment provides shade for children, educators and staff
- Children are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills
- All educators and staff are supporting duty of care and regulatory requirements
- Appropriate supporting of WH&S strategies to minimise UV risk and associated risk factors for educators, staff and visitors
- Children, families, visitors and volunteers are informed of the Sun Protection Policy and the services SunSmart measures
- Encourage safe UV exposure whenever UV index levels are below 3
- Ensure all children and educators obtain some UV exposure during safe periods
- Understanding of cultural considerations in relation to sun protection

**Background:** As per Education and Care Service National Regulation 168 (2), all OSHC services are to have a policy regarding Sun protection. Other documentation and legislation that assists in the implementation of this policy includes:

- National Regulations 100 (Risk assessments), 113 (Natural environments) and 114 (Shade)
- Education and Care Services National Law Act (2010), section 167 *Protection from harm and hazards*
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Date of Operation: 16<sup>th</sup> of June 2021

Reviewed: 20<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Review Required: July 2025

## Implementation

- When outside, children are required to wear loose fitting **clothing** that covers as much skin as possible. Clothing made from cool, densely woven fabric, such as the school uniform, is recommended.
- All children are required to wear **hats** that protect their face, neck and ears whenever they are outside during Term 1 and 4, and whenever the UV levels reach 3 and above.
- SPF 30+ or higher broad spectrum, water resistant **sunscreen** is available for all staff and children to use.
- Sunscreen is applied at least 20 minutes (where possible) before going outdoors and reapplied every two hours or more frequently if sweating or swimming. Strategies are in place to remind students to apply sunscreen before going outdoors.
- Under the supervision of staff, children are encouraged to apply their own sunscreen.
- Sunscreen is to stored in a cool place, out of the sun and the expiry date is to monitored.
- If available (optional) children are encouraged to wear close fitting, wrap-around **sunglasses** that meet Australian Standard 1067 and cover as much of the eye area as possible.
- Management to make sure there is sufficient number of shelters and trees providing **shade** in the outdoor area.
- Encourage children to use available areas of shade whilst engaged in outdoor activities.
- The availability of shade is considered when planning for outdoor program or excursion.
- Encourage children to use available areas of shade for outdoor activities.
- Children without appropriate hat or outdoor clothing are asked to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.
- Incorporating sun protection messages within the education and care program, and reinforced through children's activities and displays.
- Providing all stakeholders with information on sun protection through the service's noticeboard and website (including access to this policy).
- Checking the daily sun protection times are reviewed each day and that all sun protection measures are put into action when the UV is 3 or above.

When the UV is 3 or above All OSHC Staff, educators, visitors and volunteers (role models) are responsible for:

- Wearing sun protective clothing and a hat whilst outdoors.
- Applying SPF 30+ or higher broad spectrum, water resistant sunscreen.
- Seeking shade wherever possible.
- Discussing sun safety with children and implementing appropriate measures to protect children from overexposure to ultraviolet radiation.
- All staff are educated in First Aid including heat exhaustion/exposure and actively care and educate children to prevent heat related illness occurring.