Florey Preschool Sun Protection Procedures

The following procedures align to support the implementation of the ACT ETD – Sun Protection Policy 2006 (SP200609)

Procedures for keeping children ‘sun smart’

Environment

- Sun shade shelter has been erected over sand pit area. Children are only permitted to play here when this area is in shade.
- The school will minimise the amount of time students spend outdoors between 11:00am and 3:00pm (Daylight Savings Time) and 10:00am and 2:00pm (Eastern Standard Time) except during the low UV period of June and July.
- Teachers will be asked to timetable outdoor activities earlier in the day, especially during Daylight Savings Time.
- The preschool has a large number of large established trees that provide ample shade. Students will be encouraged to use these trees as play areas to avoid the sun.

Protective Clothing and Shade Provision

- Broad-brimmed bucket hats (sun smart hats) are purchased for every child in the preschool unit and remain on site. Additional/spare hats are always available as a back-up provision.
- Sun hats with cords are not purchased or permitted at Florey Preschool due to the dangers of choking associated with the cords on some hats.
- Florey Preschool supports children without hats through the provision of spare, clean hats during play periods and therefore has not had to enforce the ‘No Hat, No Play’ aspect of the policy.
- Due to the low levels of ultraviolet radiation in Canberra during the winter months the ACT Cancer Council does not recommend sun protection during June and July. Florey preschool implements a ‘hats off’ period during June and July. Students will not be redirected to sit in the shade during these months.
- Additional clothing is supplied by the preschool (i.e. t-shirts) to protect children who are not wearing sun smart clothing at preschool. If a child refuses to wear sun smart clothing, they will be not permitted to play outside.
- All preschool staff model a commitment to the sun smart policy by wearing sun smart clothing to work, sun smart hats outdoors, applying sunscreen when required and by occupying shaded areas for supervision outdoors.
- Where practical, children will be able to wear sunglasses when playing outdoors.

Reviewed May 2015
• During school sports carnivals or other outdoor activities that may involve volunteers/visitors, the school will inform the visitors of our sun protection procedures and encourage them to act as good role models by practising sun protection behaviour.
• Children will be encouraged to wear rash vests or a t-shirt for any outdoor swimming activities.

Sunscreen
The school will encourage the use of sunscreen by children by:
• Encouraging parents to supply SPF 30+ sunscreen as part of their child’s school equipment
• Encouraging parents/carers to apply sunscreen to their child before the child comes to school
• Reminding and encouraging children to apply and reapply sunscreen on all excursions.
• Allowing students time to apply sunscreen in the classroom before going outside to play.
Children will be encouraged to apply sunscreen themselves. Parents should be aware that teachers may not be able to assist every child to apply sunscreen.
• If a student is allergic to sunscreen, parents/carers must notify the school about this on the medical form completed at the beginning of the year.

Education and Communication
• Parents will be informed of the Sun Protection Policy when they enrol their child at Florey Primary School.
• Sun smart principles are addressed through discussions between teachers and children in preschool.
• The preschool will communicate the Sun Protection Policy via the school website and in the Parent and Carers Handbook.
• The school will ensure that the information on sun protection procedures will be conveyed to new staff when they commence at the school and to relief teachers at the commencement of employment.
• Staff will regularly assess shade provision and usage and make recommendations.
• Where a student consistently refuses to practice sun protection procedures the school will communicate with a parent/carer via a phone call or note home.