



## Hot Weather Policy

### Policy Statement

Mark Oliphant College Children's Centre aims to provide a safe environment for children. We are aware that children are at greater risk of suffering from heat illness than adults. Staff will ensure that children are protected from harm caused by exposure to heat both from air temperature and relative humidity levels.

To ensure children are protected from heat illness the following practices will be implemented:

- Children and staff are required to wear a hat whenever they are outside (when UV 3 or above). Broad brimmed, bucket or legionnaires styled hats are provided. Spare hats are available for children.
- Staff are required and children are encouraged to wear clothing which covers their shoulders and the tops of their arms. When required the Centre will provide children with suitable items of clothing.
- Children will have the opportunity for indoor and outdoor play. Staff will use UV rating information provided by Bureau of Meteorology (BOM) to inform outdoor play decisions.
- Activities will be made available under the shaded areas (sand pit, bark chips, veranda) during times of UV rating 3 or above (according to Bureau of Meteorology BOM).
- Discussions about skin and ways to protect, as well as identifying bodily signals (thirst for example) will be included in the program including staff role modelling safe practices.
- When enrolling their child, families will be informed about the sun safety policy.
- Drinking water is accessible for children indoors and outdoors at all times. Staff will frequently encourage children to drink water as appropriate.
- Families are encouraged to pack food in insulated containers with a freezer brick or frozen water. Lunches are stored inside where it is cool. The fridge is available for storage as necessary.

Sources: Cancer Council of South Australia, Sports Medicine Australia

### Revision Register

<i>Version Number</i>	<i>Details of Changes Made</i>	<i>Date Issued</i>
2		April 2015
3	Reflects that our Centre now provides hats for children Reflects programming information around bodily signals	September 2016