

# 18. Sun Safety Policy

## National Quality Standards (NQS)

Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety	
2.2	Safety

Education and Care Services National Regulations	
113	Outdoor space natural environment
114	Outdoor space shade
168	Education and care service must have policies and procedures

## PURPOSE

To protect all children and educators from the harmful effects of ultraviolet (UV) radiation from the sun and to help educate children and families about sun protection

## SCOPE

This policy applies to children, families, educators, management and visitors of the Service

## IMPLEMENTATION

Australia has the highest rate of skin cancer in the world. Research has indicated that young children and babies have sensitive skin that places them at particular risk of sunburn and skin damage. Exposure during the first 15 years of life can greatly increase the risk of developing skin cancer in later life. Early Childhood Services play a major role in minimising a child's UV exposure as children attend during times when UV radiation levels are highest.

Some sun exposure is important for vitamin D which is essential for healthy bones and muscles, and for general health, but too much sun can cause skin and eye damage and skin cancer. Sun exposure during childhood and adolescence is a major factor in determining future skin cancer risk.

At each Story House Early Learning service, we endeavor to ensure that children, educators, families and visitors are kept safe from the sun through proactive measures and monitoring of UV levels in areas where our services are located.

## SOURCE

- Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. (2014). Guide to the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2015,
- Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
- Children's Services Act 1996
- Cancer Council Australia

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