



POLICY: **Sun Protection**

Links:

Reg 46

Rationale & Objectives:

The purpose of this operational policy is to protect children from the harmful effects of ultraviolet radiation (UVR).

Lumsden Kindergarten provides a sun-safe environment by being committed to protecting children and kaiako from the risks of UV radiation. Our sun protection policy follows the Cancer Society's minimum criteria.

To provide a safe environment that provides shady areas for our children and kaiako.

To encourage children and kaiako to wear suitable clothing, hats and sunscreen.

To provide information to parents/whanau on keeping safe in the sun.

Procedures:

- Children are made aware of the need for protection from the sun. Before going outside during the summer, children must be wearing sun hats and have sunblock applied. Enforce 'No hats, no play outside' rule. This is a Ministry of Education requirement.
- Sunblock is provided by the centre but parents are welcome to provide their own.
- All sunblock will be checked for expiry dates.
- Parents are required to sunblock their children before they attend Lumsden for the day.
- Teachers will reapply sunblock after lunch time and when they feel it is necessary to re-block children.
- Our centre will have sunblock available with an SPF rating of no less than 30 for children and adults to apply when required, as recommended by the New Zealand Cancer Society.
- All team members will role model by wearing sun hats and sunblock outside when appropriate. The Ministry of Education ask us to adhere to this requirement.
- Our centre will provide information when relevant to families/whānau regarding the importance of sun safety.
- Our centre may access local organisations to provide resources and information relating to sun safety.
- All spare children's hats will be washed weekly. Resource Support teacher responsible for this job.

### Implementation:

Sensible sun protection behaviour should not put people at risk of vitamin D deficiency.

Lumsden Kindergarten will promote sun protection during peak ultraviolet radiation (UVR) periods, when the ultraviolet index (UVI), which measures the intensity of the UVR in the environment, is 3 or above. This is especially important when spending long periods in the sun, particularly for those with fair skin.

In most parts of New Zealand, peak UVR times are between September and April, particularly between 10 am and 4 pm (during daylight saving hours).

Regulation 46: Health and safety practices standard: general requires that every licensed service provider to whom this regulation applies to take all reasonable steps to promote the good health and safety of children enrolled in the service.

For more information go to the Cancer Society website, <http://www.cancernz.org.nz/>.

Philosophy: *'Trusting relationships'*

Policy Developed: June 2017

Reviewed: June 2018, July 2019, August 2020, Sept 2021, Dec 2022