



Vale Park Preschool

Hot Weather Policy

At Vale Park Preschool we aim to keep everyone safe and in particular during periods of hot weather. Reasonable steps will be taken to identify and manage risks, and reasonable precaution will be taken to protect children from harm and hazards.

The preschool will:

- Provide a comfortable and safe environment for all children.
- Provide cooling to maintain a comfortable temperature for all children.
- Seek sun protection advice from the Cancer Council of SA.
- Recognise that the risk of heat stress is a factor of both air temperature and relative humidity levels.

Strategies to reduce the risk of heat illness will include:

- Shade: During periods of hot weather, activities will be conducted in shaded areas.
- Drinks: Drinking water will be accessible at all times.
Children will be reminded to have a drink.
Children will be encouraged to bring a drink bottle.
- Families: Families will be encouraged to dress children in clothing that minimises heat gain, in layers that can be easily removed during activity and a type that is 'Sun Safe'.
- Lunch: Families are encouraged to pack food in insulated containers with a freezer brick or frozen water.

The following measures will apply on days when the UV radiation levels are high and when educators feel conditions warrant it:

- Modified outdoor activities will be offered to children in the morning. These will be located in shaded areas.
- There will be no outdoor activities offered in the afternoon and children will remain indoors.
- Children will eat their snack indoors.

Vale Park Preschool recognises the risk of heat related injury that parents may experience when they deliver and collect children. Therefore, families are encouraged to use the veranda and come into the air-conditioned building.

Educators and Governing Council will monitor, evaluate and review the effectiveness of the sites Hot Weather Policy.

This policy will be shared with all new educators and families, and available on the website and in the preschool policies folder.

This policy has been developed in consultation with the Governing Council, educators and families of the centre.

This policy will be reviewed and evaluated regularly and modified as required to ensure continued relevance for the centre.

Hot Weather Policy cont.

The Governing Council endorsed this policy on:

8th September 2016

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Chairperson

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Director