

Sun Safety Policy

Rationale

Tamariki will experience an environment where they are kept safe from the harmful effects of the sun.

Purpose

To ensure KIDDZ provides a sun safe environment, measures should be taken to protect children and to educate children on how to protect themselves, from the harmful effects of the sun.

Guidelines

These should include the following:

- Educators and visiting teachers acting as role models by wearing hats and/or sunscreen when outdoors during summer.
- Requiring all children to come in to care with a sunhat that provides protection for the face, ears and neck, and a sunscreen lotion with an SPF of at least thirty but preferably 50, for daily use in the summer months for tamariki playing outside. Caution is needed in using sunscreen lotions on babies under 1 year of age, due to sensitivity of the skin. It is better to keep babies out of strong sunlight altogether. Parents/guardians need to be informed of this sun awareness policy and permission granted to the educator to apply sunscreen lotion to their children.
- Ensure that all children remain dressed appropriately when playing outside.
- Consideration will be given to the appropriateness of outdoor play at the peak of the sun's intensity (10.00am-4.00pm). Educators will encourage children into sun protected areas or indoors during the hottest part of the day.
- The availability of shade will be considered when planning excursions.
- Sun awareness programmes can be included in the children's programme and resources accessed for visiting teachers, educators, and parent/guardian education.
- Planning the environment to provide both natural and artificial shade utilizing sunshade device products and placing play equipment near/under trees and shrubs where these are available.

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NELPS objectives 1, priority 1