



Grove Kindergarten

Hot Weather & Extreme Conditions Policy

Date created
September 2015

Next Review
April 2028

Rationale

Grove Kindergarten has a duty of care to students and staff to ensure their comfort, safety, and welfare. This includes adequate protection against hot weather and/or extreme climate conditions.

This policy seeks to ensure that a planned management strategy is in place that will cater for a broad range of circumstances.

All site leaders have a duty of care to behave in a manner that ensures no foreseeable harm befalls an individual under their care as a result of negligence on their part.

On days of extreme heat and/or extreme climate conditions, in line with annually reviewed risk assessments, children and staff are encouraged to take reasonable care to protect their own health and safety and that of others in the preschool.

Strategies to reduce the risk of heat illness in young children:

SHADE: Activities conducted in periods of hot weather are to be undertaken in shaded areas.

DRINKS: Children are to be frequently offered water or fluids. Drinking water is to be accessible to children at all times.

HATS: Children are asked to wear hats from August to April, as per the Sun Protection Policy. Spare hats are given to children who do not have a hat. Parents are to provide a broad-brimmed or legionnaire-style hat.

CLOTHING: Parents are encouraged to dress children in loose-fitting clothing that covers as much skin as possible.

SUNSCREEN: Parents are asked to provide sunscreen (named and left at kindergarten) for their child to independently apply during the day at scheduled times.



12 Main Street
Eastwood SA 5063
08 8271 5371
0417 092 487

Victoria.Willcox828@schools.sa.edu.au
Info.groveKindy436@schools.sa.edu.au

grovekgn.sa.edu.au



FOOD: Parents are encouraged to pack food in insulated containers with a freezer brick. The preschool will store children's lunches and afternoon snacks in the kitchen during the day prior to them being eaten.

Strategies to reduce the risk of heat illness in young children:

COVER: Adults are to direct children to cover. Available cover includes the sandpit roof, under the verandah, or inside the building.

SAFETY CONES: Safety cones are used to cordon off the area under large gum trees at the back of the kindergarten yard in times of high wind.

This policy has been established after consultation with staff and parents within the preschool community.

Document Review History

Date	Approved by Governing Council
September 2015	Review
July 2016	Review
March 2017	Review
April 2018	Review
May 2019	DFE new logo changed
August 2020	Review. Edited to reflect current recommendations in extreme heat
August 2022	Review
April 2025	Review. Edited to be consistent with the Sun Protection Policy

Sources

- Cancer Council Website
- DFE guidelines for developing a Hot Weather Policy



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