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Signature: 	
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Related Legislation and Documents: <i>Education and Care Services (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011 (NT)</i> –sets a national standard for children’s education and care across Australia. <i>Education Act</i> <i>Work Health and Safety (National Uniform Legislation) Act</i> <i>Cancer Council Northern Territory_Sun Protection Policy</i>	
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Version	Date	Nature of Amendment
1.0	2021	New Policy
1.1	18/2/22	Scheduled review according to Policy Development and Review Policy - minor changes only.

SUN PROTECTION POLICY

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DEFINITIONS AND ABBREVIATIONS

MSSA: Milkwood Steiner School Association

NT: Northern Territory

PURPOSE

Exposure to ultraviolet (UV) radiation in childhood is a major risk factor for developing skin cancer later in life. By implementing a best-practice Sun Protection Policy and procedures, Milkwood Steiner School seeks to protect students, staff and visitors from UV radiation and teach students good sun protection habits from an early age. Sun protection practices are required in the Northern Territory all year round whenever UV levels are 3 or above and extra care is needed between 10am-3pm when UV levels reach their peak.

The Sun Protection policy should be read alongside the MSSA Inclusion and Anti-Discrimination Policy, and adapted with intentions for inclusivity, dignity and diversity. Adaptations to this policy for children and staff acknowledge and celebrate cultural differences and body differences, along with the school's values and an overriding need to keep children safe from sun harm.

SCOPE

This document applies to all areas of the school, including the Milkwood Steiner School Association Board (the Board), staff, students, Playgroup, After School Care, families, carers and friends of MSSA, volunteers and visitors to the school.

This policy applies in all interactions while in school or off site, including school related functions, camps and excursions.

POLICY STATEMENT

Where possible, outdoor activities are scheduled outside peak UV times of 10am-3pm.

Sun protection measures are considered when planning outdoor activities and excursions whenever the UV levels are 3 or above.

MSSA seeks to providing shade (trees, built, and portable shade structures etc) in areas where students gather - such as eating, outdoor teaching or popular play areas.

The availability of shade is considered when planning all outdoor activities and excursions.



Students are required to wear sun-safe hats that protect the face, neck and ears when outside. Recommended sun-safe hats include legionnaire, broad-brimmed and bucket hats. Baseball caps are not recommended.

Students who do not have a sun-safe hat are required to play in the shade or a suitable area protected from the sun.

Sun-safe clothing is part of Milkwood Steiner School's dress code. Staff, educators and students are required to wear sun-safe clothing that covers as much of the skin (the neck, arms, shoulders and back) as practical. This includes shirts with collars or covered necklines, sleeves, longer style dresses and shorts, and rash vests or t-shirts for outdoor swimming.

Where possible, SPF 30+ or higher, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen is available for staff and students.

Students and teachers are encouraged to reapply sunscreen every 2 hours when outdoors for extended periods.

Staff and students are permitted to wear sunglasses outdoors. Close-fitting wrap-around sunglasses that cover as much of the eye area as possible and comply with Australian Standard AS1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) are recommended.

Families and visitors are encouraged to use a combination of sun protection measures (sun-safe hats, clothing, sunglasses and SPF 30+ or higher, broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen) when attending or participating in outdoor activities.

Sun protection information is promoted to the school community through newsletters, notice boards, school's website, parent meetings, staff meetings, school assemblies and on student enrolment.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Teachers and Teacher Assistants are responsible for:

- Ensuring that children under their duty of care are following the expectations of the sun protection policy
- Encouraging the use of sunscreen when going outside.
- Modelling good sun protection behaviours when outside, including wearing sun-safe hats, clothing and sunglasses, applying SPF 30+ (or higher), broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen, and seeking shade where possible.

The Principal is responsible for monitoring and reviewing the Sun Protection Policy.



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Parents and Caregivers are responsible for:

- Ensuring children are equipped with adequate sun protection clothing and sunscreen in accordance with the parent handbook