**Sun Safe at Salisbury Kindergarten**

*All children and adults* at the centre required are to wear a hat with one of the following specifications when accessing the outdoor area:
- a broad brimmed hat with a brim width of at least 7.5 cm
- a legionnaire style hat where the back flap meets the side of the front peak
- a bucket hat with a deep crown that sits low on the head and has an angled brim which is at least 5 cm wide (children under 5).

If a child attends kindergarten *without a hat* they will be asked to play inside or under the veranda rather than in the outdoor environment.

*The staff* will model positive sun and skin safe practices including:
- Wearing appropriate hats and clothing when outdoors
- Setting up activities in shaded areas and directing children to shady areas wherever possible
- Applying sunscreen after lunch to children who stay for whole day
- Re-locating outdoor activities when UV levels will be over 3.

*Parents* will be required to support the centre’s sun smart policy by:
- providing their child with an appropriate hat everyday
- applying SPF 30+ broad-spectrum sunscreen on their child at the beginning of each session
- ensuring that their child attends kindergarten in appropriate clothing that covers as much skin as possible. For example, shirts with collars and long sleeves and longer style skirts and shorts - *no tank tops or mid riff tops*.

*On enrolment*, families will be:
- Given a copy of the Sun Smart policy and the parent section will be hi-lighted
- Encouraged to ensure their child has a hat in their bag at all times – even when UV levels are likely to be under 3.

This policy will operate from the beginning of September until the end of April and when UV levels are over 3.

The Cancer Council advises that it is important to balance sun protection with safe sun exposure for the production of vitamin D for bone growth and development. During May to August, at times when the UV radiation level is below 3, sun protection for most people is not necessary.

The centre will incorporate sun and skin awareness activities in its teaching programme and the children will be involved in checking UV levels everyday – especially between May and August.

Skin cancer rates are higher in Australia than anywhere else in the world. It is the most common form of cancer in Australia affecting all age groups. Skin cancers account for 80% of all new cancers diagnosed each year in Australia. Sun exposure in the first ten years of life determines, to a substantial degree, the likelihood of skin cancer developing later in life. This policy has been formulated using the Cancer Council of South Australia’s ‘Advice for Early Childhood Centres’.