# **Sun Smart Policy**



This policy applies to all OSHC programs run by Interchange Outer East;

**Note:** This policy applies to participants of any age attending Interchange Outer East OSHC activities.

### **Purpose**

This SunSmart policy provides guidelines to:

- Ensure all persons attending OSHC by IOE programs are well protected from too much UV exposure, by using a combination of sun protection measures during the daily local sun protection times (issued whenever UV levels are 3 and above).
- Ensure the outdoor environment is sun safe and provides shade for all persons attending OSHC by IOE programs.
- Ensure all persons attending OSHC by IOE programs are encouraged and supported to develop independent sun protection skills.
- Support duty of care and regulatory requirements.
- Support appropriate OHS or WHS? strategies to minimise UV risk and associated harms for all persons attending Interchange Outer East programs.

A large majority of the people supported by OSHC by IOE are reliant on Staff to identify times of high risk and act appropriately to ensure people are protected

### **Healthy physical environment**

#### 1. Seek Shade

- Staff are required to ensure there is a sufficient amount of shelter and trees providing shade in the outdoor area being used for the program
- The availability of shade must be considered when planning all outdoor activities.
- People attending OSHC by IOE programs are encouraged to choose and use available areas of shade when outside.
- People attending OSHC by IOE programs who do not have appropriate hats or outdoor clothing will be asked to choose a shady area, or other suitable area protected from the sun.
- Staff must regularly assess the availability and quality of shade, and determine whether there is a better location to move the activity to.
- When using the basketball courts on a day of a high uv rating or low shade times, the gazebo must be installed and placed on the basketball court to provide shade for participants.

## **Healthy social environment**

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#### 2. Slip on sun protective clothing

- There is a preference for all people accessing OSHC by IOE to wear tshirts, rather than singlets.
- When on swimming and beach activities, rash vests (or tshirt) and board shorts should be worn.

#### 3. Slap on a hat

 ALL persons attending OSHC by IOE programs are required to wear hats. SunSmart recommends legionnaire, broad-brimmed or bucket style hats to protect face, neck and ears – although this is not a requirement by IOE.

#### 4. Slop on sunscreen

- SPF30+ (or higher) broad-spectrum, water-resistant sunscreen is supplied by OSHC by IOE and/or families.
- Sunscreen is to be stored in a cool, dark place out of the sun.
- IOE Staff are responsible for ensuring the sunscreen is within date and discard of any sunscreen that is out of date or has been exposed to heat or sun.
- IOE ask that parents apply sunscreen to their child prior to arriving at an activity.
- Sunscreen will be applied every TWO hours during an activity or more often if it is wiped or washed off
- Staff are responsible for ensuring every person in the scope of their duty of care is adequately covered by sunscreen on each and every application.
- To help develop independent skills regarding sun protection, participants supported by OSHC by IOE are given opportunities and encouraged to apply their own sunscreen under supervision of Staff; however Staff maintain responsibility for ensuring adequate coverage.
- Staff should be conscious of clothing moving when in the water, and cover areas that
  may inadvertently be exposed to the sun ie: possible gap between rash vest and
  shorts.
- Where participants have sensitive skin or allergy to creams, families are asked to provide suitable sunscreen for Staff to use on their child.
- Sunscreen application will be documented by staff on Xplor.

#### 5. Slide on sunglasses (if practical)

• SunSmart suggests that where practical, people should wear close fitting, wraparound sunglasses that meet the Australian Standard 1067 (Sunglasses: Category 2, 3 or 4) and cover as much of the eye area as possible. This item is a recommendation although not a requirement of IOE.

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This SunSmart policy should be reinforced through Staff modelling of appropriate sun protection techniques.



### **Engaging families**

When registering with OSHC by IOE, families are:

- Informed of OSHC by IOE Smart policy.
- Asked to provide a suitable sun protective hat, covering clothing and sunscreen for their child/young person.
- Asked to ensure their child is already adequately covered in sunscreen upon arrival to OSHC by IOE programs on days of UV level 3 or above.
- Advised that permission to apply sunscreen to their child/young person is implied by their acknowledgement of receipt of this policy.
- Encouraged to model SunSmart measures themselves when attending OSHC by IOE programs.

If Staff become aware that someone has been sunburnt while attending an Interchange Outer East program/service:

- Staff must assess if medical treatment is required.
- The Interchange Outer East after hours phone must be contacted as soon as practical upon noticing (or program coordinator if within business hours).
- The person's parent/s must be notified if the burn is significant/concerning.
- An incident report and/or injury log must be completed.