

Rostrevor Kindergarten

Hot Weather Policy

National Quality Standard

QA2.1.1 Each child's health needs are supported

QA 2.3.2 Every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury

Regulation 168(2)(a) Policies and procedures are required in relation to health and safety, including matters relating to sun protection.

At Kindergarten we need to make arrangements in the case of hot weather to reduce the risk of heat illness to young children. To ensure that children attending Rostrevor Kindergarten enjoy a safe and comfortable learning environment, we have adopted a hot weather policy.

If the Bureau of Meteorology forecast the maximum daytime temperature to be 36°C or greater, or extreme humidity, the Preschool will adhere to the Extreme Heat Strategies dictated by the Department for Education ("*Inclement weather and sun protection*") and recommendations from the Cancer Council SA.

On days of extreme heat staff at the Kindergarten will make modifications to the program, some of these may include:

- Adjusting the routines of the day to maximise the cooler parts of the day.
- Activities conducted in periods of hot weather are to be undertaken in shaded areas, under the veranda, or if needed, relocate indoors.
- Children will be frequently offered water and drinking water will be accessible at all times.
- Parents are encouraged to pack food in insulated containers with a freezer brick and we will store the food in a cool place.
- If the temperature is above 36°C in the CAFÉ eating area we will eat our snacks and lunch inside.
- Although we are not in a "bushfire zone" we will still monitor the South Australian Country Fire Service's fire danger warnings.

If the preschool site has extenuating circumstances (such as no air-conditioning due to breakdown or power blackout) then there may be early dismissal if the forecast is at least 36 degrees Celsius. Staff will remain on duty in case children are unable to be collected and they will be adequately supervised and kept as comfortable as possible.

Endorsed by Rostrevor Kindergarten Governing Council June 2020

Signed  (Chairperson) Date 17/8/20

To be reviewed June 2021