



LINKS CHILDCARE POLICIES & PROCEDURES

Sun Protection Policy

Last Review Date: 20/05/2022

Policy No. 28

Issued: 2014

Policy Statement

Links Childcare Sun Protection Policy has been developed to ensure that all children are protected from damaging levels of UVR from the sun. As children's skin is extremely sensitive at this young age, this policy is carefully considered throughout the whole year, but especially during the warmer summer months.

At Links Childcare we are guided by HSE advice on how best to prevent UV damage and sunburn detailed in the following link

<https://www2.hse.ie/wellbeing/babies-and-children/child-safety/outdoors/preventing-sunburn/>

Parents and Guardians are asked to take note of its contents and in so doing to make an informed decision in relation to the Links Childcare Protocols below.

If a parent/guardian chooses not to allow the application of sunscreen, he/or she must provide informed written consent that he/she has made this choice, despite having been specifically advised in this policy of the risk to children, as outlined in the HSE guidelines. This form is available at Appendix 1. In addition to the Consent Form, parents must ensure that any child who is not wearing sunscreen, has a wide brimmed/Legionnaire-style hat and loose-fitting clothing to cover his/her arms and legs when in the garden, as a means of protecting Links Childcare's duty of care for that child.

Sun Protection Protocols

- Children are required to wear hats that protect their face, neck and ears from the sun. Parents are expected to provide appropriate hats.
- Water resistant SPF 30+, broad spectrum sunscreen must be provided by parents for the exclusive use of their child. The sunscreen must be clearly labelled and will be stored in a cool place out of children's reach.
- Children in the garden between 11 a.m. and 3 p.m. approx. will be encouraged to stay in shady areas, in addition to the wearing of hat and sunscreen.
- Educarers will apply sunscreen to the children in their care at least 30 minutes before sun exposure and every 2 hours thereafter.
- Children will be provided with regular fluids.
- Staff adhere to the Hand Hygiene Policy between each child's sunscreen application.

Review

Management, in consultation with staff, monitors and reviews the effectiveness of this policy yearly or as required.

Review Dates:	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	January 2020	October 2020	May 2022
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Appendix 1

Informed Consent Form

Parent /Guardian 1 : I _____, confirm that I have read and understood the health risks outlined in the Links Childcare Sun Protection Policy including the HSE Guidelines. In spite of the warnings, I request that Sunscreen is not applied to my child(ren) _____. I undertake to provide a hat and clothing as outlined in the Protocols section of the Sun Protection Policy.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Parent /Guardian 2 : I _____, confirm that I have read and understood the health risks outlined in the Links Childcare Sun Protection Policy including the HSE Guidelines. In spite of the warnings, I request that Sunscreen is not applied to my child(ren) _____. I undertake to provide a hat and clothing as outlined in the Protocols section of the Sun Protection Policy.

Signed: _____

Date: _____