



Policy and Procedure Clothing for Children

National Quality Framework Guidelines, Quality Area 2 Children's Health and Safety and The Department of Health National Physical Activity, Sedentary Behavior, and Sleep Recommendations for Children (Birth to 5 years) recommend appropriate clothing should facilitate children's participation in all educational experiences when attending childcare. As part of our commitment to supporting children's health and safety, we will be providing sun hats to children whilst in care all year round.

Acacia recognises the impacts of plastic pollution in to our country and is encouraging the shift towards a more sustainable future by asking families to provide a reusable bag to place children soiled clothing.

This policy has been developed under the CHILD values framework to ensure each child attends childcare in safe and appropriate clothing to be able to participate without limitation in all activities and assist early childhood educators to promote children's learning and participation in Acacia's children's Centre's.

C- Compassion:

Children are encouraged to develop their independence and self-help skills to foster their well-being, identity and sense of Belonging, Being and Becoming.

H- Honour:

In order to promote their independence, appropriate clothing is recommended which your child can manage independently.

I - Integrity:

During routine times where undressing and dressing is required, educators are sensitive to each child's privacy and dignity and will further ensure that each child has the correct support and sufficient time to finish their tasks

L- Learning:

Children feel a sense of empowerment when they can undress and dress by themselves

D- Diversity:

We encourage your child to be dressed appropriately for the weather so they can participate in an Indoor/ Outdoor program as directed by the centre. This can include families providing rain coats and gumboots

Play is children's work and parents should be aware that children's clothing might become soiled by paint, mud, sand etc. during the educational activities at the centre. Smocks are provided but may not be sufficient to prevent soiling.

Acacia will endeavour to purchase washable products.

Parents/guardians are requested to label all items of clothing, shoes and bags. The centre will accept no responsibility for lost or damaged items.



Clothing:

1. Easily laundered clothing is recommended to accommodate messy play activities.
2. Dirty clothes will be placed in child's reusable plastic bag and returned to parents in the child's school bag.
3. Comfortable clothes including tracksuits, leggings or pants are recommended to facilitate safe participation in all play activities (running, climbing etc.)
4. Clothing should be practical. Too many buttons and buckles, can make removal of clothing and toileting difficult for children.
5. Clothing should be safe. Avoid cords and capes that may present choking hazards. Multiple layers are not recommended under SIDS guidelines (Refer to Sleep and Rest Policy)
6. From September to April clothes worn should provide adequate sun protection. Sleeveless garments do not provide shoulder protection i.e. do not dress children in singlets or tanks top (Refer to sun care policy)
7. In cooler months please provide woollen hats and jackets.
8. Please provide your child with raincoats and gumboots on rainy days to enable them to participate in all types of educational experiences.

Jewellery

1. Parents are advised to remove children's jewellery that may cause risk or harm to themselves or other children at the centre E.g. ingestion or choking hazard.

Footwear

1. Thongs or slip on shoes are not permitted to be worn at any time
2. Comfortable, non-slip, flat and well fitted footwear, suitable for climbing and running is recommended i.e. Runners or boots.
3. Footwear should be easily manageable for children to remove and fit themselves promoting self-help skills.
4. No shoes are recommended for Infants learning to walk.

Parents/guardians are requested to label all items of clothing, shoes and bags. The centre will accept no responsibility for lost or damage items.

References

Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority

- *National Quality Framework Resource Kit*

Cancer Council Victoria

- *Sample Sun Smart policy for early childhood education and care services*, June 2020

Department of Health

- National Physical Activity and Sedentary Behaviour, and Sleep Recommendations for Children (Birth to 5 years) guidelines

National Health and Medical Research Council

- *Staying Healthy - Preventing Infectious Diseases in Early Childhood Education and Care Services 5th Edition*, November 2012

Legislation

- *Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010*
- *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2018*

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