

WODEN EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRE

CLOTHING POLICY

POLICY STATEMENT: The purpose of this policy is to provide families with information about the expectations regarding clothing for their child. By having a policy that can be referred to we are able to be consistent in expectations across the Centre. Factors to be considered when providing clothing for children include

- 1) Safety (enclosed foot wear, sun safe clothing, no drawcords that can get tangled)
- 2) Practicality – clothes children can wear independently to aid toilet training
- 3) Spare clothing – in bag for use if needed and appropriate to the season
- 4) Labeling – if clothes are labelled it is easier to return them to families, if clothes aren't labeled we may not be able to return them.

This policy supports inclusive practices at Woden Early Childhood Centre. Please refer to the Inclusion Policy.

RATIONALE: The clothing children wear while in care influences the quality of their experiences as clothes can affect their health, safety comfort, play and learning. These issues apply to the clothes children wear to child care, the extra clothes provided by families, clothes provided by the child care service and to dress-up clothes. (Stonehouse)

SCOPE: This policy applies to all families with children attending the Centre and all Staff including students and volunteers.

RELEVANT LEGISLATION: Centre based children's Services Conditions August 2000

Occupational health and safety ACT 2000

QUALITY ASSURANCE SYSTEM: Quality Improvement and Accreditation System
Quality Practices Guide. 2005 principle 1.3, 1.4, 2.2, 5.3, 6.5

LOCATION OF INFORMATION: this information is made available to all families and staff during the orientation process. It is included in the CD Policy given to each family and staff member on orientation as well as being mentioned in the family handbook and staff handbook. Printed copies can be made available on request for those families without computer access.

Linking Policies:

Sun protection

Source Documents:

Anne Stonehouse, [Children's clothing in child care](#), National Child Care Accreditation Council QIAS fact sheet retrieved from www.ncac.gov.au

Key Resources:

Early Childhood Australia, The Code of Ethics 2006, retrieved from [www.early childhood Australia.org.au](http://www.earlychildhoodaustralia.org.au) on 3 December 2008

POLICY REVIEW

This policy is reviewed on a biannual basis both by the centres staff and then by families. Once the Policy has been reviewed and changes are made it goes to the management committee for ratification. Please refer to the Policy development and review policy.

Date endorsed by Committee: 24.3.09

Date to be reviewed: 4.3.10

- Children's play involves a lot of hands-on and -in activities, it is best to dress children in clothes that are tough, easily laundered, and suit the weather. Children will need a warm jacket and hat in winter. The Centre supplies 30 + sunscreen, which is applied to all children exposed to direct sunlight unless parents request otherwise. In this case parents will need to supply their own sun cream. Legionnaire sunhats are supplied for each child by the centre except for babies. Parents may if they wish supply a hat for their children. We recommend wide brim hats for best sun protection. please refer to the sun protection policy
- Clothing should be comfortable and appropriate for those children who are toilet training e.g. overalls are not appropriate for children who are toilet training.
- During the warmer weather it is children need to wear clothing that is sun safe and protects their bodies from harmful UV rays. Singlets and sleeveless shirts are not appropriate for safe outdoor play.
- Durable, hard-wearing non-slip shoes or sandals are best for indoor and outdoor play as they are flexible and offer good grip. Thongs, gumboots and bare feet can be dangerous, especially when climbing. Please talk to child care staff about appropriate foot wear for Child Care.
- Loose and cumbersome clothing is not advisable, as it can be easily caught in climbing equipment and bicycles, causing injury (e.g. Long skirts). Cords should be removed from coats and jackets.
- Please supply sufficient changes of clothing for all children i.e. children who are toilet training need at least three changes of clothing and training pants. Older children need at least two changes of clothes.
- The Centre provides cloth nappies for children who require them, but they will require some nappies in their bags to be worn at home time. If parent want their child to wear disposable nappies then they must supply them. If bottom cream is required parents are asked to supply it.
- Parents should take responsibility to label all their child's clothing. Any unclaimed clothing will become spares for the centre.
- The Centre has a small supply of spare clothing that will be used if needed. If a child needs to use these clothes, parents will be asked to wash and return them as soon as possible.
- The children's clothing will be reviewed at sleep time, considering comfort and safety, and changed where needed.
- Staff will make an active effort to protect the children's clothing through the use of smocks, etc.