

CLOTHING NQS 2.1 Version 1.12

Keithcot Farm Children's Centre strongly encourages and promotes that Educators and children wear appropriate clothing for the following reasons: sun protection, temperature, engagement in a play based curriculum and safety. The Children's Centre recognises and values the importance of cultural diversity and will support individual families clothing preferences for their children based on their cultural and religious beliefs.

The clothes and shoes a child wears have a direct impact on the quality of their learning experiences. Children need to be able to freely move, run, climb and experience the play environment and have the opportunity to develop self - help skills through learning to dress and manage toileting tasks independently. Cords, drawstrings and toggles in hats and children's clothing may become entrapped in small gaps found in play equipment causing strangulation, severe injury, lacerations to the throat and damage to the vocal chords and should not be worn. Any child with inappropriate clothing, including footwear, will be unable to participate in all activities and will be redirected to an activity that is more suitable for their attire.

Parents / guardians should consider the following:

- **To name all their child's clothing and footwear**
- **That footwear is safe and comfortable and is suitable for active play including climbing and running. Thongs and Crocs are unsuitable at the Children's Centre**
- **Ensure children who are toilet training wear clothes that are easy to manage, thereby enabling them to be more successful and independent**
- **To provide a full set of named spare clothing**
- **Ensure that their child wears a legionnaire style hat, or if wearing a broad brimmed hat, that it has no drawstring, thereby eliminating the risk of choking**
- A lost property box will be provided for unclaimed clothing and the contents will be cleared at the end of each school term
- That children may engage in water or messy play and although smocks will be provided, children should wear older clothes
- That the Children's Centre has a limited range of spare clothing available
- That they should provide a warm jacket, raincoat, a beanie or other warm hat and boots for the winter months so that children can participate in outdoor play

Educators need to take into account the Sun Protection policy and Health, Safety and Welfare policy in relation to themselves and dress appropriately. Educators are also positive role models for children and families and therefore need to take this into consideration.

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TO BE REVIEWED: July 2018

SOURCED: SIDS AND KIDS

SA Cancer Council

Keithcot Farm Children's Centre Sun Protection Policy

Children's Clothing in Child Care – NCAC 2005

Raising Children Network 2008

DECD Hazard Alert HA39 Cords, Drawstrings and Toggle Entrapment 2017