

CLOTHING Version 1.17

Keithcot Farm Children's Centre strongly encourages and promotes that staff 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. 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. 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.

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.**
- **Providing 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 stand is 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 dressing children in play clothes is advisable.
- 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.

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

CREATED: November 2007

REVIEWED: November 2008, July 2009, July 2010, July 2011, July 2012, July 2013, July 2014, July 2015, July 2016, July 2017, April 2017, July 2017, July 2018, July 2019, March 2020, April 2021, April 2022, April 2023

TO BE REVIEWED: April 2024

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