



Stirling North Childhood Services Centre

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DRESS CODE

NQS 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.2.1

Stirling North Childhood Services Centre strongly encourages and promotes all 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. Please come and speak to one of the staff about your concerns.

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 e.g., play in the shade. Some children are not happy with these requests if it means leaving their friends who have suitable clothing on and are playing elsewhere.

Families should consider the following:

- to name all children's belongings including clothes, lunch or snack containers and water bottles
- to provide spare clothes (named) as sometimes accidents do happen and play can be messy e.g. mud play, painting or sensory experiences such as slime
- to ensure dresses or tops do not have shoestring straps and shoulders are covered e.g. capped sleeves
- ensure footwear is safe and comfortable and is suitable for active play including climbing and running. E.g. thongs are not acceptable footwear for preschool
- ensure (if possible) children who are toilet trained wear clothing that is easy to manage enabling them to be more independent and successful
- ensure broad brim hats have not drawstrings to avoid possible choking or wear a sun safe hat such as a legionnaires hat
- sometimes the weather does change unexpectedly or when the months are cooler remember to pack something warm as we normally do still explore the outdoors environment on these days.

The centre does have a limited supply of spare clothes though some children prefer to wear something that belongs to them.

A lost property box is provided for unclaimed clothing and lunch/snack containers left behind (and not named). This is located in the foyer beside the sign in table.

All Educators also need to consider the Sun Protection, Hot Weather and Work, Health and Safety Policies in relation to themselves and dress appropriately. Educators are positive role models for children and families and therefore staff take this into consideration.

Source:

SIDS AND KIDS SA Cancer Council. <https://sidssa.org.au>

Review:

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