**Hot Weather Policy for Salisbury Kindergarten**

The Salisbury Kindergarten outdoor area has many large trees and structures which provide shade to most areas during the day. During periods of hot weather all preschool activities will be set up in these shaded areas. Activities will also be provided under the verandah but will be moved when staff feel that the levels are no longer safe for outdoor play.

The centre has airconditioning in each of the indoor play areas which allows the children to engage in activities in a cool climate.

The kindergarten has a cold water fountain which is accessible to all the children at all times during the day. The children will be encouraged and reminded to drink frequently during the day. All children who have been outside will be reminded to have a drink before they come inside for mat times.

**Parents:** We encourage parents/carers to pack food with an insulated brick or frozen water bottle to keep cool during the session. Parents are asked to put their child’s lunch in the esky when they stay for a whole day. We ask that you dress your children in clothing which minimises heat and wear layers that can easily be removed during the day. We ask that your child wears sunsafe clothing (no tank tops or midriff tops).

If there is an extended power outage on a day of extreme heat, the staff will contact families to come and collect their child. If children remain at the site, the staff will provide water play activities and provide plenty of drinking water for the children.

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Children are at greater risk of suffering from heat illness than adults.

“Children sweat less and get less evaporative cooling than adults. In warm and hot weather they have greater difficulty getting rid of heat; they look flushed, and feel hotter and more stressed than adults.”

Sports Medicine Australia