



Mountain Community Children's Centre

Clothing and Footwear Policy

Rationale: All people, including children have the right to clothing as protection from the weather.

Aim: To maintain safe environments for children, staff and families in regards to clothing.
To work together with families to meet each child's need for comfort.
To respect each family's clothing preferences, including culturally differences.

Implementation:

Ensure your child is in play clothes which will allow them to participate in messy play. The children will be encouraged to wear paint aprons during messy play or craft activities to protect their clothes as much as possible. All children are to bring along a least one change of spare clothing for accidents or change in weather.

A supply of spare clothing that is labelled is kept at the centre for use in change of weather or toileting accidents.

Staff will ensure children are appropriately dressed indoors and outdoors and when necessary adjust each child's clothing throughout the day. Due to the cold temperatures on the Mountain we request that all children bring along a coat or parker for outdoor play. Gloves and or beanies may be worn however, a sun safe hat will still need to be worn over or under the beanie.

Sun safe clothing for outdoor activities is also essential. This includes appropriate hat, and shirt with covered shoulders. Singlets, singlet tops or strapped dresses will be covered with a shirt that covers the shoulders while outdoors. If children do not have one, a spare shirt will be lent (see Sun Protection Policy).

Safe footwear is recommended to be worn for children, staff, students and volunteers (refer to Staff Handbook). Gumboots, crocs, thongs and slip on shoes are discouraged as they may be potentially slippery. Closed in shoes including sneakers or boots during the colder weather and sandals with a back strap in the warmer weather are recommended. Appropriate footwear for infants and babies would include soft shoes with soles for crawling, cruising or walking. The shoes need to be suitable for outdoor play.

It is the responsibility of staff members to follow the clothing policy as a role model to children and for their own safety.

Clothing to facilitate self help skills is encouraged. This would include pants without zippers, buttons, or belts for ease when toileting. Overalls are discouraged for toilet training and nappy changing as it is difficult to get them undone in a hurry. All in one suits or overalls are also discouraged for toilet training children as they are also difficult to undo in a hurry.

Policy updated July 2025 – Reference Material The NSW Work Health and Safety Act 2017 and the NSW Work Health and Safety Regulation, Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011, Guide to the National Quality Standard (3) ACECQA (2011) Red Nose Safe Sleep, The Cancer Council NSW. (2022), UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
Education and Care Services National Regulations: 106, 168
National Quality Standards/Elements: 2.1.1, 2.1.2, 2.3.2, 4.2, 4.2.1, 5.2.3

Staff will allow plenty of time for the older children to dress themselves. Encouragement will be offered and staff will have reasonable expectations of children and assist when needed.

When staff are dressing and undressing children, they need to be aware of child protection issues and be in view of another staff member (refer to the Child Protection Policy).

Soiled clothing will be stored in a separate plastic bag in a locked cupboard for collection by the families at the end of the day (see Nappy Change Procedure and Toilet Training Procedure).

Rest time

During rest time ensure children are comfortably dressed. Remove excess layers including jumpers or jackets as well as shoes and or socks. Once children get up from rest time jumpers and jackets as well as shoes and or socks will be put on again.

For babies ensure they are dressed comfortably warm, not hot or cold. Hats or bonnets will be removed during rest time (refer to Rest and Sleep Policy).

Staff will regularly review policies and participate in ongoing professional development to remain up to date with current legislation and practices.