



# Water Safety

Review Date: 24/10/2027

## Introduction

The safety and supervision of children in and around water is of the highest priority.

This relates to water play, excursions near water, hot water, drinking water and hygiene practices with water in the service environment.

Children will be supervised at all times during water play experiences.

## Goals – What are we going to do?

Children's safety and learning will:

- be protected in and around water through supervision and education; and
- be supported through policy and procedures that reflect our service philosophy.

## Strategies - How will it be done?

**The Nominated Supervisor will:**

1. Provide guidance and education to educators, staff and families on the importance of children's safety in and around water.
2. Ensure work, health and safety practices incorporate approaches to safe storage of water and play.

**Educators and staff will:**

1. Ensure water troughs or containers for water play are filled to a safe level. These activities will be supervised at all times and containers or troughs will be emptied onto garden areas after use. Children will be discouraged from drinking from these water activities.
2. Teach children about staying safe in and around water.
3. Empty buckets used for cleaning immediately after use. No buckets are left in play areas or accessible to children.
4. Provide a source of clean drinking water at all times (own drink bottles from home). This water will be supervised to ensure that it is safe and hygienic for consuming.

## Statutory Legislation & Considerations

Water Safety Guidelines:

<https://www.acecqa.gov.au/resources/preparing-nqf-policies-and-procedures>

Guide to the National Quality Framework 2018

Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

## Sources

National Health and Medical Research Council - [www.nhmrc.gov.au](http://www.nhmrc.gov.au)

NSW Department of Health - [www.health.nsw.gov.au](http://www.health.nsw.gov.au)

Community Childcare Cooperative Sample Policies – [www.cccnsw.org.au](http://www.cccnsw.org.au)

## Related Policies

- First Aid
- First Aid Plan
- Emergency and Evacuation
- Excursion

## Operational Safety

1. Grey water systems or water tanks will be labelled with “do not drink” signage and the children will be supervised in this area to make sure they are not accessing this water for drinking. Educators will discuss with the children that this water is for the purpose of play and not for consumption.
2. Hot water accessible to children will be maintained at the temperature of 43.5°C. Thermostatic valves to be tested and serviced annually by a plumber.
3. A risk assessment will be conducted prior to any excursion taking place. Particular attention will be focused upon water safety where the excursion is near a body of water.
4. Adults will not consume hot drinks around children, or will take safety measures, such as travel cups, to safeguard against burns.
5. Water for pets at the setting must be changed regularly and only be accessible to children when adults are present.

## Policy Availability

The policy will be readily accessible to all staff, families and visitors, and ongoing feedback on this policy will be invited.

## Review

Management and staff will monitor and review the effectiveness of the policy regularly. Updated information will be incorporated as needed.

### **Approved Provider Representative:**

**Name:** Ashliegh Mitchell

**Role:** President

**Signature:**

**Date:**

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