

## Water Safety Policy

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**NQS** Links to National Quality Standard: 2.1.1; 2.3.2; 7.3.5

NQS	2.2.1	<b>Supervision- at all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard</b>
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## National Regulations

	168	Education and care service must have policies and procedures
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### Aim

Children's safety and wellbeing will:

- be protected in and around water through supervision and prevention; and
- be promoted through the availability of clean, hygienic water for play and drinking.

### Implementation

The Nominated Supervisor will:

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

- Teach children about staying safe in and around water.
- Empty buckets used for cleaning immediately after use. No buckets are left in play areas or accessible to children.
- Provide a source of clean drinking water at all times (own drink bottles from home or access water cups). This water will be supervised to ensure that it is safe and hygienic for consuming.
- 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.
- Children will be supervised at all times during water play experiences.

### **Operational Safety**

- 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.
- Hot water accessible to children will be maintained at the temperature of 43.5oC. Thermostatic valves to be tested and serviced annually by a plumber.
- 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.
- Adults will not consume hot drinks around children.
- Water for pets at the setting must be changed regularly and only be accessible to children when adults are present.

## SOURCES

- S • Royal Life Saving Society – Australia: [www.royallifesaving.com.au](http://www.royallifesaving.com.au)
- Water Safety Victoria – Water Safety Guide: Play it Safe by the Water [www.watersafety.vic.gov.au](http://www.watersafety.vic.gov.au)
- Kid safe – Water Safety Fact Sheet: [www.kidsafevic.com.au](http://www.kidsafevic.com.au)

## Review

The policy will be reviewed annually by the Out of School Hours Care subcommittee of School Council.

<u>Ratification Date</u>	<u>Review Date</u>	<u>Version Number</u>	<u>Date Produced</u>
2019	Year 2020	3	July 2020