

Warradale Community Children's Centre acknowledges the traditional custodians of the land we live on today and we pay our respects to the Aboriginal and Torrens Strait Islander People past, present and emerging.



## Water Safety Policy

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### National Quality Standard (NQS)

Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety		
2.1.2	<b>Health practices and procedures</b>	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
2.2	<b>Safety</b>	Each child is protected
2.2.1	<b>Supervision</b>	At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard
2.2.2	<b>Incident and emergency management</b>	Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented.

### Education and Care Services National Regulations

Under the Education and Care Services National Law	
<b>168 2 (a)</b>	Policies and procedures are required in relation to water safety, including safety during any water- based activities

### Aim

To ensure the safety of the children when in playing with water.

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## Implementation

### **Leadership will:**

- Develop and review this policy and ensure it is implemented throughout the site.

### **Team Leaders will:**

- Ensure educators are aware of this policy and it is implemented in their room.

### **Educators will:**

- Ensure water containers are safely covered or inaccessible to children in the education and care setting.
- Ensure wading/paddling pools or water play containers are emptied immediately after each use and stored to prevent the collection of water.
- Supervise water play experiences at all times as per risk assessment.
- Complete a Risk Management plan, when planning experiences or excursions based around water play or areas with a potential drowning hazard.
- Ensure children are supervised if playing in the outdoor environment during or after rain. The environment should also be checked for flooding or other water hazards after storms.
- Educate children on water safety and of the dangers of the water.
- Ensure that children are encouraged to safely explore the properties of water, building water safety messages into our programming where appropriate.
- Provide families with water safety information including the availability of learn to swim programs offered in the local area, beach, river and dam safety information and water safety in the home information.
- Minimise water waste and reinforce the water conservation message, by ensuring that only enough water is required is used to undertake a water activity.
- Any excursions that involve water or are in the surroundings of water shall be noted in the service's risk assessment and if deemed safe to participate in.

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## Risk Management

- Educators will ensure that there is a risk assessment conducted for high risk activities- e.g. Tree climbing, waterplay, all Educators can conduct a risk assessment with consultation of a more experienced Educator. There is folder of relevant risk assessments kept within the service.
- Professional development opportunities will be provided, when required to ensure educators are aware of risk and associated prevention steps to follow.
- Regular Workplace, Health and Safety checks will be conducted by a competent person on the indoor and outdoor environments and equipment. it is the reasonability of all educators to check environments and equipment before children can access it.
- Playground safety checklists are to be completed by Educators daily.
- Regular maintenance of buildings, equipment, and the general environment.
- Hazards will be removed immediately.
- Intentionally teach safety issues, correct use of equipment and involve children in setting safety rules.
- A risk assessment will be completed before every excursion to ensure the learning outweighs the risk.

## Evaluation

- This policy is viewed as working effectively when children are adequately supervised and free from danger when playing in water.

## Source

- Australian Children's Education & Care Quality Authority. (2014)
- Guide to the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2015.
- Swimming Pools Act 1992
- Work Health and Safety Act 2011
- Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011
- Revised National Quality Standards

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### Record of Policy Adoption and Amendment:

Version	Date	Details	Author	Next Review Date
1.0	31/3/18	Policy developed	Trish Cook	April 2020
	6/4/2020	No changes		April 2021
1.1	31/4/23	Regulations on top and acknowledgement. Added risk management.	Michelle and Pamela	December 2024