



# HEALTH AND SAFETY WATER SAFETY PROCEDURES

**Procedures Number:**

**Version:**

**Drafted by:**

**Approved by EO on:**

**Responsible Person:**

**Schedule Review Date:**

## The Approved Provider or Persons with Management and Control is responsible for:

- ensuring that children are adequately supervised (refer to *Definitions*) at all times when near water hazards (refer to *Definitions*)
- ensuring that educator-to-child ratios are maintained at all times (*Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010*: Sections 169(1),(2)&(3), *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011*: Regulations 123,
- conducting a risk assessment in relation to any water hazards on or near the premises that may be accessible to children
- ensuring permission is obtained from parents/guardians for an excursion to a location where there is a water hazard (Regulation 99) (refer to *Excursions and Safe Transportation of Children Policies*)
- ensuring that water hazards and risks associated with water-based activities are considered in a risk assessment prior to conducting excursions and other offsite events (Regulation 101)
- ensuring increased levels of supervision for an excursion to a location where there is a water hazard (refer to *Supervision of Children Policy*)
- conducting a regular safety check of the service premises (refer to *Occupational Health and Safety Policy*)
- ensuring any water hazards that are not able to be adequately supervised at all times are isolated from children by a child-resistant barrier or fence (particularly large bodies of water including swimming pools, rivers, ponds etc.)
- ensuring that an educator with a current approved first aid qualification (refer to *Definitions*) is in attendance and immediately available at all times children are being educated and cared for by the service (Regulation 136)
- ensuring that details of current approved first aid qualifications (refer to *Definitions*) are filed with each staff member's record
- reporting serious incidents (refer to *Definitions*) to DET
- reporting notifiable incidents (refer to *Definitions*) to WorkSafe Victoria
- ensuring that water safety awareness is embedded in the curriculum
- providing current information to parents about water safety.

## The Nominated Supervisor or Persons in Day to Day Control is responsible for:

- assisting the Approved Provider to implement the *Water Safety Policy*
- ensuring parents/guardians are informed of the *Water Safety Policy* on enrolment





- ensuring permission is obtained from parents/guardians for an excursion to a location where there is a water hazard (refer to *Excursions and Service Events Policy*)
- ensuring information on water safety (refer to *Sources*) is incorporated into the educational program
- ensuring that children are adequately supervised (refer to *Definitions*) and protected from hazards and harm at all times
- ensuring that water hazards and risks associated with water-based activities are considered in a risk assessment prior to conducting excursions and other offsite events (Regulations 100, 101)
- ensuring permission is obtained from parents/guardians for an excursion to a location where there is a water hazard (refer to *Excursions and Service Events Policy*)
- ensuring increased levels of supervision for an excursion to a location where there is a water hazard (refer to *Supervision of Children Policy*)
- ensuring that an educator with a current approved first aid qualification (refer to *Definitions*) is in attendance and immediately available at all times children are being educated and cared for by the service
- ensuring that all educators' current approved first aid qualifications meet the requirements of the National Regulations and are approved by ACECQA (refer to *Administration of First Aid Policy*)
- informing the Approved Provider immediately if any serious or notifiable incidents (refer to *Definitions*) occur at the service.

#### All staff are responsible for:

- providing adequate supervision (refer to *Definitions*) at all times
- undertaking a risk assessment prior to an excursion to a location where there is a significant water hazard (refer to *Excursions and Service Events Policy*)
- adjusting supervision strategies to suit the activities being undertaken (refer to *Supervision of Children Policy*)
- obtaining parental permission for an excursion to a location where there is a water hazard (refer to *Excursions Policy*)
- maintaining a current approved first aid qualification (refer to *Definitions*)
- ensuring gates and other barriers restricting access to water hazards are closed at all times and that fences are kept clear at all times
- ensuring that containers of water (including nappy buckets and cleaning buckets) are sealed with child-proof lids
- ensuring wading/paddling pools, water play containers and portable water courses are emptied immediately after each use and stored in a manner that prevents the collection of water when not in use
- checking the outdoor learning environment at the beginning and end of each day for puddles or filled containers that could pose a potential risk to small children after heavy rain
- providing water safety education as a part of the service's program
- informing the Approved Provider immediately if any serious or notifiable incidents (refer to *Definitions*) occur at the service.





### Parents/guardians are responsible for:

- supervising children in their care, including siblings, while attending or assisting at the service
- ensuring that doors, gates and barriers, including playground gates, are closed after entry or exit to prevent access to water hazards
- informing themselves about water safety
- ensuring their children understand the risks associated with water
- recognising when resuscitation is required and obtaining assistance
- considering undertaking approved first aid qualifications, as resuscitation skills save lives.
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**Volunteers and students, while at the service, are responsible for following this policy and its procedures.**

### EVALUATION

In order to assess whether the values and purposes of the policy have been achieved, the Approved Provider will:

- regularly seek feedback from educators, staff, parents/guardians, children, management and all affected by the policy regarding its effectiveness
- monitor the implementation, compliance, complaints and incidents in relation to this policy
- keep the policy up to date with current legislation, research, policy and best practice
- revise the policy and procedures as part of the service's policy review cycle, or as required
- notify parents/guardians at least 14 days before making any change to this policy or its procedures.

### ATTACHMENTS

Nil

### AUTHORISATIONS

Signature of EO

Date of approval by EO

Hampton Park Care Group Inc.

