



Moana
KINDERGARTEN

Moana Kindergarten
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Water safety policy & procedure

Purpose

To ensure children's safety during water play activities and excursions.

Scope

This policy applies to children, families, staff, management and visitors of the Moana Kindergarten Service.

Implementation

Active Supervision

Children must be actively supervised at all times when there is a risk of access to any water hazard.

Active supervision includes:

- Direct and constant monitoring of children – within arm's length (within 1 – 2 metres)
- Careful intentional positioning
- Scanning and moving around the area
- Listening closely for sounds or the absence of noise
- Observing play and anticipating behaviour

Water troughs, buckets and other water receptacles

- Water receptacles must be emptied immediately after use and stored upside down and out of children's reach. Access to kitchen must be restricted when unattended by adults.
- When filling up the water trough or any water based activity, educators must make sure the water is no greater than 30cm depth.

Eliminating hazards

- Water must be emptied immediately after use and stored in a manner that prevents the vessel filling with water when not in use. All aspects of the environment must be designed to ensure adequate drainage of water to avoid pooling.
- Staff must use risk assessment procedures when setting up a water play experience taking into consideration children's abilities, children with special rights, and safety issues.

Excursions

- Site leader must consider water safety and potential water hazards when undertaking a risk assessment for an excursion, including a routine excursion. Site leader will refer to and use the Department for Education Camps and Excursions Policy and Procedure to plan and risk assess for excursions.

Definition

A water hazard is defined as anything that can hold 5cm of water and fit a child's nose and mouth.

Water hazards in children's learning environments include:

- sinks, basins, fish tanks, fish bowls, baths
- swimming pools, portable pools, spas
- water courses, ponds, sandpits, clam shells
- water troughs, containers, pots and buckets used for play, animal drinking containers, pooling water.

Related Documents

National Quality Standard and Regulations

- National Quality Standard 2.3
- Regulation 168

Policy and procedures

- Preschool water safety procedure
- Risk management policy & procedure
- Hazard management procedure
- OHS&W and injury management policy (2010 Health and Safety Services)
- DfE Camps and Excursion Policy and Procedure

Approved by Governing Council:

Chairperson:

Approved by Director: Sophie Northcott

Date:

 6/9/21


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