

## E-7 Water Safety

### NQS

|           |                                  |
|-----------|----------------------------------|
| QA. 2.1   | Health.                          |
| QA. 2.1.2 | Health practices and procedures. |
| QA. 2.2   | Safety.                          |
| QA. 2.2.1 | Supervision.                     |
| QA. 4.1   | Staffing arrangements            |
| QA. 4.1.1 | Organisation of educators.       |
| QA. 7.1.2 | Management systems.              |
| QA. 7.1.3 | Roles and responsibilities.      |

### National Regulations

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| Reg. 77  | Health, hygiene and safe food practices                      |
| Reg. 78  | Food and beverages   |
| Reg. 100 | Risk assessment must be conducted before excursion           |
| Reg. 101 | Conduct of risk assessment for excursion                     |
| Reg. 102 | Authorisation for excursions                                 |
| Reg. 168 | Education and care service must have policies and procedures |

### My Time, Our Place

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| LO. 1 | Children feel safe, secure, and supported   |
| LO. 3 | Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing |

### Policy Statement

We recognise that the safety of children is paramount when in or around water. We will ensure that children are supervised at all times especially during water play, excursions and around hot water. We will also ensure that the appropriate hygiene policies are followed in relation to all drinking water provided at the Centre.

### Related Policies

- THE KIDS CASTLE Policy A-10: Acceptance and Refusal of Authorisations
- THE KIDS CASTLE Policy A-19: Nominated Supervisor
- THE KIDS CASTLE Policy B-6: Indoor Environment
- THE KIDS CASTLE Policy B-7: Outdoor Environment
- THE KIDS CASTLE Policy C-11: Staff Child Ratio

- THE KIDS CASTLE Policy D-2: Hygiene
- THE KIDS CASTLE Policy D-3: Food and Nutrition
- THE KIDS CASTLE Policy D-8: Sun Protection
- THE KIDS CASTLE Policy D-10: First Aid
- THE KIDS CASTLE Policy D-11: Management of Incident, Injury and Trauma
- THE KIDS CASTLE Policy E-5: Excursion

## **Procedure**

Children will be provided with clean, fresh drinking water at all times. The water will be served from containers which will remain securely sealed at all times and always emptied and cleaned thoroughly at the end of each day.

All hot water accessible to children must be no higher than 43.5°C. Any kitchen appliances used to heat water will be kept in an area not accessible to children.

Educators will ensure all hot drinks are consumed away from the children and outside centre opening hours.

During the daily grounds check, Educators will ensure no pools or containers of water are present and in the case of extreme rain, Educators will thoroughly inspect outdoor areas for any pooling of water before allowing children to play outside.

All buckets of water will be emptied immediately after use and no full buckets will be left in the children's play area. All water play involving water containers or troughs will be directly supervised at all times and emptied on to garden areas immediately after use. Children will be discouraged from drinking this water during play.

Educators will ensure that all water carrying vessels that can reasonably present a drowning hazard for children are stored in a manner so as to prevent inadvertently collecting water and causing a drowning risk to children.

All grey water or rain tanks will be clearly labelled "Do Not Drink" and all children playing in areas with water tanks located nearby will be monitored closely by educators to ensure that do not attempt to access the water supply.

Excursions that involve swimming or activities closely located to water will be planned to enable an educator child ratio of 1:5. Educators will ensure children are kept in sight at all times. Parents will be asked to consent to the swimming capabilities of their child and any child who is deemed not competent will not be allowed to swim. A risk assessment will be conducted prior to any excursions, including any in or around bodies of water.

## **Sources**

- Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011
- National Quality Standard
- Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010

- Kidsafe NSW – ‘Hot water burns like fire’ and ‘Kids in & around water’
- Workplace Health and Safety Act 2011
- Royal Lifesaving NSW

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