



WATER SAFETY POLICY

Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety

Rationale

The safety and supervision of children in and around water is of the highest priority. This relates to water play, hot water, drinking water and hygiene practices. Children will be supervised at all times during water play experiences.

Aims: To ensure that Lake Wangary Preschool will prevent child accidents and illnesses relating to water hazards.

Procedure

To prevent child accidents and illnesses relating to watercourse, water troughs and other water hazards the educators will:

Supervision and Prevention will be used to protect children and keep them safe when playing with water. Educators will:

- Actively supervise children near water.
- Ensure water level of creek and dam play area does not exceed 300m.
- Teach children about staying safe in and around water.
- Ensure water troughs and containers for water play are filled to a safe level and emptied after use.
- Store equipment to prevent collection of water e.g. turn boat over, put troughs in shed.
- Buckets, storage containers etc must be stored in a manner that prevents the vessels from filling with water when not in use.
- 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.
- Complete Daily Outdoor Learning Area Inspection Checklist to provide children with a safe environment before going outside.
- Ensure at least one staff member has approved first aid qualification.

Availability of clean and hygienic water for play and drinking will promote children's safety and wellbeing. Educators will:

- Provide clean drinking water at all times.
- Use clean, fresh to fill troughs for water play.
- Children are able to access the taps for clean, fresh water for use in the mud kitchen and creek play area.

- Ensure water troughs, play containers and mud kitchen pots and pans are emptied after use each day.

Prevention will be used to protect and keep children safe from hot water. Educators will:

- Consume hot drinks in the Staffroom at School on Lunch breaks only.
- Visitors will consume hot drinks in an approved thermal mug or in kitchen area.

If there is an identified Water Hazard, educators will follow a specific risk assessment to ensure the following;

- **Active supervision;** direct and constant monitoring of children (within arm's length 1-2m), careful intentional positioning, scan and move around the area, listen closely for sounds or absence of noise. Observe play and anticipate behaviour, have high adult/child ratios.
- **Eliminate Hazards:** All aspects of the environment are designed to ensure adequate drainage of water to avoid pooling.
- **Restrict access:** if on excursion
- **Pools:** There are no swimming or wading pools onsite



Reviewed: April 2025

Approved by site leader

Name: Clint Beard

Signature: 

Endorsed by the Governing Council Chairperson:

Name: Kate Coleman

Signature: 

Review Date: April 2027