

Early Childhood Management Services

Quality Area 2: Children’s Health and Safety Early Childhood Education

Water Safety Policy

Purpose

This policy will outline the procedures that apply to managing water safety, including safety during any water-based activities at ECMS services.

Principles

ECMS is committed to:

- Providing opportunities for children to explore their natural environment including through water play
- Ensuring that children are protected from the risks associated with drowning or non-fatal drowning experiences
- Ensuring that curriculum planning incorporates water safety awareness
- Providing information to educators, staff, parents/guardians, volunteers and others at the service about water safety.

Scope

This policy applies to the approved provider, Nominated Supervisor, Certified Supervisor, Educators, staff, students on placement, volunteers, parents/guardians, children and others attending the programs and activities of [Service Name], including during off-site excursions and activities.

Roles and responsibilities

Director, Early Childhood Education	Accountable for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensuring implementation and compliance with this policy and procedure.
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Document Name: Water Safety Policy	Next Review Date: January 2020	Dates reviewed: Sept 15, Sept 16, February 2018, January 2019
Document Owner: Director, Early Childhood Education	File Location: Inside Play Resources Policy and Procedure	Release date: July 2014 Page 1 of 3

Area Managers	Responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring implementation and compliance with this policy and procedure Undertake the responsibilities as outlined in the policy and procedure.
Nominated Supervisors / Centre Directors	Responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ensuring implementation and compliance with this policy and procedure Undertake the responsibilities as outlined in the policy and procedure.
Educators (including students and volunteers)	Responsible for: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Undertake the responsibilities as outlined in the policy and procedure.

Relevant legislation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Child Wellbeing and Safety Act 2005 (VIC) (Part 2: Principles for Children) Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010: Section 167 Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: Regulations 101(2), 168(2)(a)(iii)
Relevant ECMS policy and procedure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Administration of First Aid Emergency Excursions Nutrition Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Occupational Health and Safety Supervision of Children
Sources and further reading	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Royal Life Saving Society – Australia: www.royallifesaving.com.au Water Safety Victoria – Water Safety Guide: Play it Safe by the Water: www.watersafety.vic.gov.au Kidsafe – Water Safety Fact Sheet: www.kidsafevic.com.au/water-safety
Related to NQS Q.A	2 and 7

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