



NARNIA EARLY LEARNING

ACN 002 919 58

(Administered by St. Philip's Christian Education Foundation Ltd.)

WATER SAFETY POLICY

Aim:

To ensure the safety and supervision of children in and around water. This relates to water play, excursions, drinking water and hygiene practices with water in our early childhood environment.

Children's safety and wellbeing will be protected in and around water through supervision and education. Clean, hygienic water for play and for drinking will always be made available.

Implementation:

The Nominated Supervisor will:

1. Provide guidance and education to educators, staff and families on the importance of children's safety in and around water.
2. Ensure work, health and safety practices incorporate approaches to safe storage of water and play.

Educators and staff will:

1. Ensure water troughs or containers for water play are filled to a safe level. These activities will be supervised at all times and containers or troughs will be emptied onto garden areas after use. Children will be discouraged from drinking from these water activities.
2. Teach children about staying safe in and around water.
3. Empty buckets used for cleaning immediately after use. No buckets are left unsupervised in play areas or accessible to children.
4. When filling any water vessel with water ensure that this area is well supervised while children are at play and that all water is drained out when the learning experience is finished.
5. Provide clean drinking water at all times. This water will be supervised to ensure that it is safe and hygienic for consuming. Water containers will be securely sealed. At the end of each day, any water container will be emptied and cleaned thoroughly.

Procedures:

1. Hot water accessible to children will be maintained at the temperature of 43.5 C. Thermostatic valves to be tested and serviced annually by a plumber organised by SPCC school maintenance.
2. 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.
3. Adults carrying and consuming hot drinks will not do so in rooms near children, at any time. When coffee is being transported from the kitchen space or from outside the centre (café) to the staff room, safety of children will be paramount with coffee being carried in screw top travel mugs/keep cups.
4. Water for pets must be changed regularly and only be accessible to children when adults are present
5. The water tank will be labelled with "do not drink" signage. The water pump will also have "do not drink" signage on it. Educators will ensure the children are aware that this water is for play and gardens only.
6. Children requiring bathing will be bathed using a wash cloth and warm water rather than being immersed in a bath.

This policy links to the following:

National Quality Standard: 2.1.1; 2.3.2; 3.1; 7.3.5

Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011: 168 (2) (h) & (a)(iii)

Sources: Community Childcare Co-operative (NSW)