

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

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

LO. 1	Children and young people feel safe, secure, and supported
LO. 3	Children and young people are aware of and develop strategies to support their own mental and physical health and personal safety

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 ensure that the appropriate hygiene policies are followed in relation to all drinking water provided at the Centre.

Related Policies

- ENOSHCP Policy A-10: Acceptance and Refusal of Authorisations
- ENOSHCP Policy A-19: Nominated Supervisor
- ENOSHCP Policy B-6: Indoor Environment
- ENOSHCP Policy B-7: Outdoor Environment
- ENOSHCP Policy C-11: Educator Child Ratios

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

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. Fresh drinking water is also available from water coolers and bubblers when outside.

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 in the kitchen and kept out of the reach of children. Educators will only use coffee cups that have secure lids that have been supplied, rather than an open mug. No warm/hot drinks will be taken outside during play time to avoid any accidents e.g. by getting hit by a ball, or someone running into the educator then spilling the drink on children or themselves.

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 a staff: child ratio of 1:5. ENOSHCP 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
- Education and Care Services National Law 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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