



Epping Views Primary Outside School Hours Care WATER SAFETY POLICY

Reviewed:	October 2019	Next Review Date: October 2020
Policy Owner:	Epping Views Primary School Age Care	
National Quality Standards (NQS)	2.1.2, 2.2, 2.2.1,2.2.2	
Related Policies, regulations and laws	Educational Program Policy, Physical Environment Policy ,Supervision Policy Health and Safety Policy. Education and Care Services National Law Education and Care Services National Regulations. (2017). Early Childhood Australia Code of Ethics. (2016). Guide to the National Quality Standard. (2017). Revised National Quality Standard. (2018).	

PURPOSE:

To ensure the safety and supervision of children in and around water. This includes water play, excursions near water with specific staff to student ratios, hot water, drinking water and hygiene practices with water in the Epping Views Primary School, Out of School Hours Care Service environment.

MANAGEMENT AND/OR NOMINATED SUPERVISOR WILL:

- Provide direction and education to educators, staff and families on the importance of children's safety and supervision in and around water.
- Ensure health and safety practices incorporate approaches to safe storage of water and water play.
- Conduct a risk assessment in accordance with the requirements prior to taking children on an excursion, which contains or may contain water.
- Ensure at least one Educator who holds a current approved first aid qualification must be in attendance at all times.
- Ensure water hazards are always supervised
- Ensure hot water is inaccessible to children

Important: parents will be notified as soon as practicable if their child is involved in an incident/accident at the Service or while under Service care. Also, details of the incident/accident will be recorded on an Incident, Injury, Trauma and Illness Record.

If the incident/accident, situation or event presents imminent or severe risk to the health, safety and wellbeing of the child or if an ambulance was called in response to the emergency (not as a precaution) the regulatory authority will be notified within 24 hours.

EDUCATORS WILL:

- Supervise children near water at all times
- Never leave children alone near any water
- Ensure fish / frog ponds and water features that are not able to be adequately supervised at all times and/or pose an unacceptable risk to children are guarded or effective barriers are in place.
- Complete a daily Safety Inspection of premises to ensure that all hazards are known and minimised. When a hazard or potential hazard is detected. Educators will complete a risk assessment to address any concerns.
- Utilise water activities in appropriate weather
- Allow the children the opportunity to experiment with water, sand and mixing materials plus a place for boats & floating objects to be used with other water play equipment.
- Ensure children remain standing on the ground whilst using the water trough
- Ensure buckets of water for soaking toys or clothing are inaccessible to children
- Children will be discouraged from drinking from these water activities.
- Monitor the tap and turn off securely when not in use
- Encourage children to use water effectively and along with staff learn new ways to save and re-use water.
- Children have safe independent access to clean and cool drinking water at all times
- Teach children about staying safe in and around water