



MANAGING WATER HAZARDS POLICY

Version: 01

Effective Date: 13 February 2025

Responsibility of: Principal

Review Date: 13 February 2027

Target Audience: Staff and Parents

INTRODUCTION

Zuccoli Preschool will provide students with water experiences to promote their development and understanding of the natural environment.

Zuccoli Preschool aims to create a stimulating environment for students to explore and discover their world and is responsible, under the *Education and Care Services (National Uniform Legislation) Act* (the Act) and *Education and Care Services Regulations* (the Regulations), to ensure their health, safety and wellbeing is maintained at all times.

DEFINITIONS

Adequate supervision, for the purpose of these guidelines, is ensuring students remain in sight and can be heard at all times while playing with water and educators are in a position to respond to individual needs and intervene immediately when necessary.

Potential hazard, for the purpose of these guidelines, refers to risks associated with water, such as swimming pools, baths, water storage containers including vessels used for water play activities, ponds and containers with poor drainage that allow water to pool.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Principal will be responsible for:

- Ensuring that the environment and equipment is maintained
- Risk assessments are completed for all water-based activities
- Adequate first aid is provided for students when required

Preschool teachers and educators are responsible for:

- Ensuring that children are adequately supervised at all times during water play
- Providing explicit lessons about water safety messages
- Completing risk assessment where relevant

Parents/families are responsible for:

- Providing spare clothing for their child in case of getting wet
- Providing their children with appropriate water and sun safe clothing on specific water days

- Providing opportunities for swim safety and swimming lessons for their child using the government provided swim vouchers, out of school time

SUPPORTING DOCUMENTS

- Zuccoli Preschool Managing Water Hazards Procedure
- Water based risk assessments

REGULATED LEGISLATION, POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Legislation

The Education and Care Services (National Uniform Legislation) Act 2011 (NT) is the legislation that adopts the National Law in the NT. The Schedule to the Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010 (Vic) sets out the National Law:

- Section 165 – Offence to inadequately supervise children
- Section 167 – Offence relating to protection of children from harm and hazards
- Regulation 12 – Meaning of serious incident
- Regulation 101 – Conduct a risk assessment for excursion
- Regulation 168 – Education and care services must have policies and procedures
 - (2)(a)(iii) water safety, including safety during water-based activities
- Regulation 170 – Policies and procedures to be followed
- Regulation 171 – Policies and procedures to be kept available
- Regulation 172 – Notification of change to policies and procedures
- Regulation 176 – Time to notify certain information to Regulatory Authority Swimming Pool Safety Act 2004

Department of Education and Training policy, guidelines and procedures

For Department of Education policy, guidelines and procedures, go to the department's School policies website to access the following policies:

- NT Department of Education School Swimming, Water Safety Programs and Aquatic Activities Policy
- NT Department of Education School Swimming, Water Safety Programs and Aquatic Activities Procedures
- NT Department of Education Managing Water Hazards in Preschool Policy and Procedure

National Quality Standards

The following Elements of the National Quality Standard apply to this policy and procedure:

Quality Area 1 – Educational program and practice o Element 1.2.1 – Educators are deliberate, purposeful and thoughtful in their decisions and actions.

Quality Area 2 – Children's health and safety o Element 2.2.1 – At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard.

Quality Area 7 – Governance and leadership o Element 7.1.2 – Systems are in place to manage risk and enable the effective management and operation of a quality service.