

# E-7 Water Safety

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Epping Heights OSHC.

## 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 feel safe, secure, and supported
LO. 3	Children take increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing

## 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.

All water-based activities will be assessed for potential risk prior to their commencement.

## **RELATED POLICIES**

- Epping Heights OSHC Policy A-10: Acceptance and Refusal of Authorisations
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy A-19: Nominated Supervisor
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy B-6: Indoor Environment
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy B-7: Outdoor Environment
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy C-11: Staff Child Ratio
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-2: Hygiene
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-3: Food and Nutrition
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-8: Sun Protection
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-10: First Aid
- Epping Heights OSHC Policy D-11: Management of Incident, Injury and Trauma
- EPPING HEIGHTS OSHC Policy E-5: Excursions

## **PROCEDURE**

The children at the Centre will be provided with clean, fresh drinking water at all times. If water containers or canisters are supplied, they will remain securely sealed at all times and always emptied and cleaned thoroughly at the end of every day.

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 away from the children, from securely lidded spill-proof cups or outside of centre opening hours.

Excursions will not include water-based activities.

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 will be emptied of water after use and no full buckets will be left in the children's play area.

All water play activities will be assessed for potential risk prior to their commencement.

Activities involving water containers or troughs will be supervised at all times and emptied on to garden areas immediately after use. Children will be discouraged from drinking this water during play.

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 activities closely located to water will be planned to enable an educator child ratio of 1:5. 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 and around water’
- Workplace health and safety act 2011
- Royal lifesaving NSW

Endorsed: 20/12/2022	Review Date: 20/12/2024
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