

PURPOSE

The purpose of this Policy is to ensure the safety and supervision of all children in and around water.

OUR VISION FOR SORRENTO EARLY LEARNING

Our vision is to aspire for excellence in the provision of early childhood services through the creation of a safe, extended family environment and the development of a community of learners where educators, parents and other adults are committed to the children's education and wellbeing.

BROAD GUIDELINES FOR THIS POLICY

The safety and supervision of children in and around water is of the highest priority. This relates to water play, excursions near water, hot water, drinking water, and hygiene practices with water in the early learning environment. Children will be supervised at all times during water play experiences.

PROCEDURES

The Sorrento Early Learning Team Leader will ensure:

- Guidance and education for Educators, Staff and families on the importance of children's safety in and around water
- Work, health and safety practices incorporate approaches to safe storage of water and play
- Hot water accessible to children will be maintained at the temperature of 43.5 degrees Celsius. Thermostatic valves to be tested and serviced regularly by a plumber
- A Risk Assessment is carried out prior to any excursion taking place. Particular attention will be focused on water safety where the excursion is near a body of water.
- Hot drinks are prepared in the kitchen area of Sorrento Community Centre; whilst children are seated, drinks may be carried into the kitchen area of the Play Room in a thermal cup/mug with a screw top lid to prevent spillage.

Early Learning Educators, Staff and Volunteers will be responsible for

- Ensuring water troughs or containers for water play are filled to a safe level.
- Activities are supervised at all times and containers or troughs are emptied onto garden areas after use
- Children are discouraged from drinking from these water activities
- Teaching children about staying safe in and around water

- Providing clean drinking water at all times. This water will be supervised to ensure that it is safe and hygienic for consumption

Available Resources

Children (Education and Care Services National Law Application) Act 2010 Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011

168 Policy and procedure in relation to 2 (a) (iii) water safety, including safety during any water-based activities

National Quality Standard 2011:

2.3.1 Children are adequately supervised at all times.

2.3.2 Every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm and any hazard likely to cause injury.

7.3.5 Service practices are based on effectively documented policies and procedures that are available at the service and reviewed regularly

2.2.2 Children's Health and Safety 'Each child's health needs are supported.'

- Children's Services Regulations 2009

Policy Control Data

Approved by Sorrento Community Centre

Date: April 2020

Scheduled Review Date: 2022

Next Review Date: