



Woodford Road, Elizabeth North 5114
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Elizabeth North Early Learning Centre

Policy Statement Water Safety

Introduction

At Elizabeth North preschool we believe children need opportunities to develop their understanding of the natural environment. Experiences with water encourages active exploration and discovery of the environment. Therefore, we acknowledge that activities and experiences that involve the use of water must follow appropriate DECD procedures and ensure the health and safety of all children attending preschool.

Ensuring that children's safety is protected in the service environment, educators need to be alert to and aware of risks and hazards and the potential for accidents and injury throughout the service, not just within their immediate area. Knowledge of potential hazards associated with water will assist educators to provide a safe, stimulating environment for preschool children.

Guidelines

To ensure the safety of all children we will:

- Supervise children near water hazards and children engaging with water activities at all times. After the activity has finished, the vessel will be drained and stored in a manner that will prevent the vessel being filled again when not in use
- Ensure that effective barriers are in place to prevent access by children to any area adjacent to a water hazard (eg. swimming pools, dams)
- Conduct a Risk Benefit when children are taken on an excursion to swim or where there is a significant water hazard in accordance with the requirements of Regulation 100 and 101 of the *Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011*.
- Provide safe and independent access to clean and cool drinking water and cups at all times.

Governing Council Member's Signature _____

Principal's Signature _____

Deputy Principal's Signature _____

Date Written: March 2018

Next Review Due: March 2020

Sources: DECD Preschool Water Safety Procedure

National Quality Standard 2

Element 2.3.1 'Children are adequately supervised at all times.

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