

Edgeworth Child Care Centre Inc.

Water Safety Policy

Aim

Edgeworth Child Care Centre aim is to prevent child accidents and illness relating to swimming pools and other water hazards to comply with the Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011. Drowning is the leading cause of death for children aged 1-4 years in Australia. Whilst most drowning occurs in backyard pools, it is important to be aware that children drown in as little as 5cm of water. Other water hazards in relation to child injuries and illnesses are: nappy buckets, toilets, wading pools, spas, bathtubs, fishponds, fountains, pet drinking bowls, dams, creeks, lakes, and beaches.

Legislative Requirements

Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011
Work Health and Safety Act 2011
Work Health and Safety Regulations 2011

Who is affected by this policy?

Children
Staff
Parents
Families
Management

Implementation

To prevent child accidents and illnesses relating to swimming pools, wading pools and other water hazards Edgeworth Child Care Centre will:

- Remove all objects from around a pool, trough or other water hazard that a child could use to climb over fencing, such as logs, trees, bikes, chairs and bins.
- Ensure no child swims in any water without:
 - Written permission from parent or guardian to learn water safety and swimming.
 - Appropriate adult/child ratios are in place.
 - Supervision is provided by a person with first aid certificate, or a recognised award experienced in water safety and rescue procedures.
- Closely supervise children near water at all times, never leave a child alone near any water, and two adults supervise if children are using a paddling pool/water trough.
- Keep cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) guide near any water and on clear visible display.
- Safely cover or make inaccessible to children all water containers, e.g. ponds, spas, nappy buckets, bathtubs and ensure that child play areas are safely fenced off from water hazards such as dams, creeks, lakes, irrigation channels, wells.

- Empty wading pools/water troughs, immediately after every use, stored to prevent the collection of water e.g. upright, also check garden after rain or watering and empty water that has collected in holes or containers.
- Ensure wading pool/water trough is disinfected and chlorinated appropriately:
 - Clean out leaves and debris every day by hosing away surface dirt and scrubbing the inside with disinfectant.
 - Rinse away disinfectant before filling pool/trough.
 - Chlorinate pool appropriately before children enter the pool.
 - Check chlorine levels regularly.
 - Children with diarrhea, upset stomach, open sores or nasal infections should not use the pool.
 - All children should wear clean bathers and go to the toilet before entering the pool, following correct toileting hygiene practices.
 - If a child passes a bowel motion while in the pool, remove all children from the pool immediately, empty pool and disinfect.

The Approved Provider/Nominated Supervisor will ensure that this policy is maintained and implemented at all times.

Sources

Kidsafe NSW Inc
 Kids Alive Do the Five www.kidsalive.com.au Retrieved 26 10 16
 Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010
 Education and Care Services National Regulations 2011
 The Sydney's Hospitals Network www.schn.health.nsw.gov.au Retrieved 26 10 16

Review

The policy will be reviewed annually. Review will be conducted by management, employees, parents and any interested parties.

Reviewed: 26 October 2016

Date for next review: October 2017