



CHILDREN'S SERVICES

Water Safety Policy

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Next Review: October 2021

1. Introduction

Coast Community Connections LTD - Children Services recognizes that opportunities to experience water activities are to be encouraged and are an important way to promote water confidence. Peninsula Children Services staff and Educators need to recognise dangers inherent in water play. Children can drown in as little as 5cm of water.

2. Scope

This Policy applies to all Children's Services operated by Coast Services Group Limited (A wholly owned subsidiary of Coast Community Connections LTD) and our employees. This applies to Early Childhood Programs, Occasional Care, Out Of School Hours Care, Vacation Care programs and services.

3. Policy

Children's Services Educators will identify and minimise risks to children involved in any activities involving water. No child under school age will be permitted to access public/private swimming pools. Where programs attend excursions to public parks or venues that are in the vicinity of water a staff: child ratio will be maintained.

4. Procedures and Implementation

All Children's Services will:

1. Ensure Water troughs or containers for water play are well supervised and emptied after use.
2. Water play activities will be supervised at all times.
3. Buckets used for cleaning will be emptied immediately after use.
4. Ensure that supervision is maintained at all times when children are using shallow wading pools. A staff member or Educator will be physically present in or beside the pool during the use of the wading pool.
5. Will ensure that other water containers/fish ponds at the premises that could constitute a drowning hazard are safely covered or are inaccessible to children.
6. Will ensure that ratios and requirements for first aid certificates as outlined in the regulation are met.
7. Ensure that if children are taken on any excursion to a beach, river, lake or other place where there is a significant water hazard the required ratios are met against the risk assessment and regulations.
8. Ensure that no excursion to a significant water hazard unless 2 of the adult persons accompanying the children have:

- 8.1 a certificate issued on completion, within the period of 12 months immediately before the excursion, of a first aid course that relates to resuscitation approved by the WorkCover Authority under the *Work Health and Safety Act 2010*, and
- 8.2 The knowledge and ability to implement water safety procedures.
9. Ensure that staff child ratios are maintained when swimming or in the vicinity of water.
10. Gain a signed parent consent on an excursion form for each child attending

Other related policies and procedures

Sun Safety Policy

Forms and Records

Enrolment forms