

## WATER SAFETY

### OVERVIEW

This user guide covers the use of DECD documents relating to 'Water Safety'. The primary document this user guide refers to is the [DECD Preschool Water Safety Procedure](#) and replaces any site specific Water Safety procedures.

### INSTRUCTIONS

#### Leadership will:

- Develop and review this policy and ensure it is implemented throughout the site.
- Ensure facilitators for other programs are aware of the restrictions regarding use of the River outdoor yard for various age groups (based on risk assessment for the pond).

#### Team Leaders will:

- Ensure educators are aware of this policy and it is implemented in their room.

#### Educators will:

- Ensure water containers are safely covered or inaccessible to children in the education and care setting/service
- Ensure storage for soiled and wet nappies has a child resistant cover.
- Ensure wading/paddling pools or water play containers are emptied after each use and stored to prevent the collection of water
- Ensure fish / frog ponds and water features that are not able to be adequately supervised at all times and/or pose an unacceptable risk to children are guarded or effective barriers are in place
- Ensure effective barriers are in place to prevent access by any child to any area that opens directly into a fenced pool area.
- Supervise water play experiences at all times as per individual room risk assessment.
- Complete a Risk Management plan, when planning experiences or excursions based around water play or areas with a potential drowning hazard. See the [Risk Management Policy](#) for further details.
- Ensure children are supervised if playing in the outdoor environment during or after rain. The environment should also be checked for flooding or other water hazards after storms (see **Inclement Weather Policy**).
- In the River room, incorporate the pond into the outdoor supervision plan and the risk/benefit assessment for the space.
- Ensure they follow the outlined safety strategies in the risk/benefit assessment for the pond.
- Ensure they are positioned in the yard according to supervision plans.

**Implemented:** December 2013      **Reviewed:** February 2017      **Next Review:** February 2018

#### **DECD Policies:**

Water Safety sub-category (found at

<http://www.decd.sa.gov.au/childrensservices/pages/policies/NQFpolicies/>)

Preschool Water Safety Procedure

Risk Management Policy

#### **DECD Forms:**

Risk Assessment Matrix