

Barlu Kurli Preschool Procedure



Water Safety

Reviewed: Feb 2019

Education and care services regulation/s	NSW Department of Education policy, procedure or guidelines	Preschool Handbook reference	School policy or procedure, where applicable
<u>Regulation 168 (2)(a)</u>	<u>Excursion Policy PD/2004/0010/V07</u>		

Resources:

Risk management plans

Introduction:

To provide connectedness with nature and incredibly rich and diverse opportunities for learning and exploration, Barlu Kurli Preschool provides daily opportunities for children to engage with water in their play environments. The Education and Care Services National Regulations (regulation 168) state that a health and safety policy which includes water safety is required by all services and a risk management process undertaken (regulation 101).

Local procedure implementation;

- Adequate supervision is provided at all times and is the responsibility of all educators.
- Water containers or water features that could be drowning hazards are appropriately covered or are inaccessible to children when not supervised by educators.
- Water troughs or containers for water play are filled to a safe level. These activities are supervised at all times and containers or troughs are emptied onto garden areas after use or used in regular sand pit cleaning activities.
- Children are discouraged from drinking from these water activities.
- Pooled water after rain is managed by all educators collaboratively with consideration for both educational value/ opportunities and safety at the time.
- Children do not have access to hot water.

- Educators and visitors do not carry or consume hot drinks where children are present, unless lids are securely fitted. Cups with lids are available in the kitchen for staff and visitors.
- Ensure risk assessments for excursions planned near water identify a higher staff to child ratio to ensure adequate supervision.
- Ensure First Aid and CPR qualifications and requirements are met at all times.
- Provide families with community messages regarding safe water practices.
- Water safety messages are embedded into the children's education program.
- Empty buckets used for cleaning immediately after use. No buckets are left unsupervised in play areas or accessible to children. All cleaning buckets are kept in the laundry locked.
- Water vessels used for play purposes are emptied at the end of the day's play and wherever possible, water is recycled for other useful purposes at the Preschool.
- Barlu Kurli Preschool provides access to clean drinking water at all times. Water containers and jugs will be securely sealed. At the end of each day, any water container will be emptied and cleaned thoroughly.

Monitoring, Evaluation and Review

A risk assessment will be conducted prior to any excursion taking place. Particular attention will be focused upon water safety where the excursion is near a body of water.

This policy will be monitored to ensure compliance with legislative requirements and unless deemed necessary through the identification of practice gaps, the service will review this Policy every year.

User guide for annual reviewing and updating this LP - Some points to address are;

- supervision considerations when children are playing with water
- not having water features or blow up swimming pools within the preschool
- emptying pooled water after rain
- children's access to outside taps
- adults not carrying and consuming hot drinks when children are present
- children not being able to access hot water
- children's drinking water
- excursions to destinations with a water feature