

Encountering a Snake

The kindergarten is located in an area where snakes may be a problem, in that they pose a danger to staff, parents and children. Mid to late spring and summer are times when snakes become active.

Guidelines for the management of snake control/encountering a snake at Christie Downs Kindergarten are:

- Most snakes will avoid humans, and if left alone and not restricted, will move away from any perceived threat.
- If a snake appears in the yard and/or teaching area inside, ensure children are kept away and give the opportunities for the snake to escape.
- If the snake remains and is perceived to be a threat, the first course of action (after clearing the area to a safe distance) is to contact the local council and/or Building Management Services and request assistance in removal of the snake. Ring snake away if urgent.
- The introduction of administrative preventative strategies such as keeping long grass cut back, not allowing suitable habitats, should assist in minimising any occurrence of snakes.
- Ensure the First Aid procedures and doctor/hospital phone numbers are clearly displayed. Provide a specifically labelled bandage for snakebite only, in the First Aid Kit.
- It is strongly recommended that children and staff be given specific instructions as to the correct procedures to adopt if they encounter a snake.

Reviewed: May 2016 Next Review: May 2017

