

# North Haven Kindergarten Water Safety Policy



At North Haven Kindergarten we believe water play is an important medium for children to experiment with and explore and adds an engaging dimension to the learning environment. It provides children with another activity where they can clarify their understanding of various numeracy concepts including measurement. It is a wonderful tactile activity and can enhance the children's imaginative play.

We are very conscious of preventing child accidents and illness relating to water hazards and to comply with National Quality Standards. We ensure that children are supervised when playing with water; this also applies to excursions near water.

Drowning is the leading cause of death for children aged 1-4 years in Australia. While most drowning does occur in backyard swimming pools, it is important to be aware that children can drown in as little as 5cm of water.

To ensure that we meet National Quality Standards in relation to water we will:

- Provide water and mud play in specific areas equipment under close supervision.
- Ensure that this equipment is emptied daily and stored appropriately to ensure no water collects in the equipment from rain or the sprinkler system.
- Ensure that the frog pond cover is maintained, to safely cover the pond at all times.
- Provide water for the birds at a height where children cannot access it.
- Children will be changed into dry clothes if they become very wet during water play activities.
- Enforce that children are not permitted in the kitchen without a member of the staff being present or a parent when playgroup is operating.
- Ensure that children are supervised when they are accessing the toilets or washing their hands.

|  |                   |                      |                 |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|
| Date Ratified by<br>Governing Council: | 11 September 2017 | Date to be Reviewed: | 17 October 2018 |
|--|-------------------|----------------------|-----------------|