

## Water Safety

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### **National Quality Standard 2.3**

### **Regulation 168 (2) (a) (iii)**

Signed: A Tyler

Director

Signed: G D'Agostino

Chairperson

Review Date: August 2024

**Water play** activities help to develop and strengthen children's gross and fine motor skills. Children enhance their gross motor skills, coordination, and physical fitness through lifting, pouring, carrying, running and splashing, while actions such as squeezing help to develop the small muscles in a child's hands.

### **Water Hazard**

A water hazard is defined as anything that can hold 5cm of water and fit a child's mouth and nose.

### **Risdon Park South Kindergarten will:**

- Provide direction and education to Educators, staff and families on the importance of children's safety in and around water.
- Educate children on the importance of safe water play.
- Ensure health and safety practices incorporate approaches to safe storage of water and water play.
- Conduct a Risk Benefit assessment prior to making water activities available.
- Ensure at least one Educator holds a current approved first aid qualification.
- **Ensure water hazards are always supervised.**
- Utilise water activities in appropriate weather.
- Allow children the opportunity to experiment with water, sand and mixing materials as well as a place for boats & floating objects to be used with other water play equipment.
- Encourage children to use water effectively and along with staff learn new ways to save and re-use water.
- Ensure children always have safe independent access to clean fresh drinking water.
- Ensure water troughs are not used without a stand, keeping them off the ground.
- Ensure children remain standing on the ground whilst using water troughs.
- Ensure water troughs or containers for water play are filled to a safe level and emptied into the garden areas after use.
- Children will be discouraged from drinking from water play activities.

### **Excursions**

- Conduct a risk assessment in accordance with regulations prior to taking children on an excursion which may have a water element.
- Include children in developing a risk assessment for excursions.
- Follow the Excursion Procedure and seek approval from the Education Director for any water-based activity and adult child ratio. Our adult child ratio will not exceed 1:4.

## **Resources**

**Department for Education Preschool water safety procedure**

**Kidsafe SA**