



Water Safety Procedure

PROCEDURE OVERVIEW

The 'preschool water safety procedure' provides instructions in relation to managing water safety, including during water-based activities. Education and care services are required to have policies and procedures in place in relation to water safety to comply with the Education and Care Services National Regulations (R 168 (2) (a) (iii)).

SCOPE

This procedure applies to all staff in the Department for Education.

PROCEDURE DETAIL

1. Active supervision of children is to be maintained at all times when water play activities are provided. This includes
 - Direct and constant monitoring of children – within arm's length (within 1-2 metres)
 - Careful intentional positioning
 - Scanning and moving around the area
 - Listening closely for sounds or the absence of noise
 - Observing play and anticipating behaviour
2. Eliminating hazards
 - Any water vessel that can hold more than 5cm of water is to be emptied immediately after use and stored away or inverted to prevent filling with water when not being used.
3. Restricting access
 - Compliant fencing or barrier.
4. All areas of play area are to be designed to ensure adequate drainage of water to avoid pooling of water.
5. Risk assessments are conducted for excursions where there are potential or known water hazards.
6. Risk assessments are conducted for specific water play areas – rock pool and bridge area.

OBJECTIVES

Water play experiences are beneficial for children's sensory development and provide opportunities for children to develop an understanding of their environment.

We provide water experiences for children to engage in active play that help them explore their world and provide multiple opportunities to engage in STEM learning.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

Preschool Director / Educators	Complying with the requirements of this procedure Reporting identified hazards and notifying other people in the immediate vicinity that the hazard is present.
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MONITOR AND REVIEW

This procedure will be monitored and reviewed by Director, Educator and Governing Council.

Date Approved: October 2021

Date Review Due: October 2024

Director: 

Governing Council: 