



Water Safety Policy

This Policy Relates to National QA 2

Kurralta Park Community Kindergarten recognises that water-based play is an important part of children's healthy growth, learning, wellbeing and development. Experiences with water encourage children's active exploration, discovery and care of the natural environment.

We recognise the risks involved with water play and excursions that involve water.

The purpose of this policy is to enable children's safety in and around water and support children's learning in a safe environment.

We create opportunities for children to learn and develop. This includes incorporating water safety awareness into the educational program.

Any water body that poses a potential drowning risk to children and could include:

- large bodies of water, such as rivers, creeks, dams, ponds, swimming pools, or any container with poor drainage that allows water to pool
- smaller bodies of water, such as baths, nappy buckets and pet water containers.

All water-based activities will be actively supervised, and no child will be left unattended when in proximity to water. Active supervision includes:

- direct and constant monitoring of children, scanning and moving around the environment
- careful and intentional positioning, observing play and anticipating behaviour
- listening closely for sounds or the absence of noise

Environments that contain water

Keep doors to kitchen and adult's bathroom closed and latched/locked when unattended by adults. Actively monitor children's use of children's bathroom.

Water-play experiences

- will be prepared in consideration of educator's ability to actively supervise. Buckets, water trough or containers may be prepared for play BUT no water is to be filled until the vessel is under staff supervision.
- NO WATER is to be left in containers at the completion of play activity. All buckets and containers are to be emptied and stored upside down.
- The water from the creek is swept into the sandpit at the end of each day during outdoor pack-up time, approximately 2:30pm.

Excursions involving water

A DfE Excursions Risk Management Plan will be developed when planning water activities with specific thought given to the group dynamic and each child's capabilities with particular care being taken for children with special needs or sensory issues.

Sources

National Quality Framework 2025 - National Law and Regulations 2017

Work Health and Safety (SafeWork SA) Act 2012

Education and Care Services National Regulations Reg 100 Risk assessment must be conducted for excursion Reg 101 Conduct of risk assessment for excursion.

Policy reviewed by staff team: 2/05/2025. Governing Council reviewed on 8/08/2025
Next Review in August 2026

