



Grove Kindergarten

Local Water Safety Policy

Date created
April 2024

Next Review
March 2027

Purpose

Grove Kindergarten values water play for the cognitive, physical and social development opportunities it provides children, including the development of their mathematical and science concepts. Grove Kindergarten also understands the importance of water safety for children during water play and around water hazards. This policy outlines how the kindergarten will manage water safety based on a completed risk assessment. It has been developed in accordance with the:

- Preschool Water Safety Procedure, February 2024
- Water Safety in Education and Care Settings, December 2018

Definitions

- *water hazard*: Anything that can hold 5cm of water and fit a child's nose and mouth
- *the completed risk assessment*: The assessment of water hazards and risks at the Kindergarten upon which this local water policy is based.

Procedure

At Kindergarten we will manage water safety and provide adequate supervision of water hazards by:

- Providing active supervision at all times when there is a risk of access to any water hazard. This includes:
 - Careful and intentional positioning of water equipment, such as the water trough.
 - Scanning and moving around areas where children are using water.
 - Listening closely for sounds or absence of noise.
 - Observing play and anticipating behaviour.



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- Eliminating or hazards. This involves:
 - Removing water from water equipment after use.
 - Storing water equipment in a manner that prevents filling when not in use, such as upside-down, in the shed or covered.
 - Emptying pots, buckets and other outdoor equipment that have filled with more than 50mm of water after rainfall.
 - Blocking off areas where water has pooled to a depth of 50mm or more after rainfall.
 - Filling troughs or containers for water play to a safe depth of no more than 300mm.
- Educating children about staying safe in and around water at the Kindergarten.
- Conducting a risk assessment prior to excursions near water.
- Reviewing the completed risk assessment quarterly.

This policy has been established after consultation with staff and parents within the preschool community.

Document Review History

Date	Approved by Governing Council
April 2024	Policy created.

Sources

Preschool Water Safety Procedure, February 2024 (edi.sa.edu.au)

Water Safety in Education and Care Settings, December 2018 (edi.sa.edu.au) The ACECQA National Quality Standards Quality Area 2: Children's Health and Safety Element 2:2:1



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