

**POLICY – WATER SAFETY**

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**1. National Quality Standards**

<b>Quality Area 2: Children’s Health and Safety</b>		
<b>Area</b>	<b>Concept</b>	<b>Descriptor</b>
2.1.2	Health practices and procedures	Effective illness and injury management and hygiene practices are promoted and implemented.
2.2	Safety	Each child is protected.
2.2.1	Supervision	At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard.
2.2.2	Incident and emergency management	Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented.

The National Education and Care Services Regulations are included in the appendix.

**2. Purpose**

2.1 Baringa Early Learning Centre (Baringa) holds the safety and supervision of children in and around water as one of the highest priorities. This relates to water play, excursions near water, hot water, drinking water and hygiene practices with water in the service environment. Children will be supervised at all times during water play experiences.

**3. Scope**

3.1 This policy applies to children, families, staff, management and visitors of Baringa.

**4. Implementation**

4.1 The Nominated Supervisor will:

- (a) Provide guidance and education to educators, staff and families on the importance of children’s safety in and around water.
- (b) Ensure work, health and safety practices incorporate approaches to safe storage of water and play.

#### 4.2 Educators and staff will:

- (a) Ensure water troughs or containers for water play are filled to a safe level. These activities will be supervised at all times and containers or troughs will be emptied onto garden areas after use. Children will be discouraged from drinking from these water activities.
- (b) Teach children about staying safe in and around water.
- (c) Empty buckets used for cleaning immediately after use. No buckets are left in play areas or accessible to children.
- (d) Provide clean drinking water at all times. This water will be supervised to ensure that it is safe and hygienic for consuming. Water containers will be securely sealed. At the end of each day, the water container will be emptied and cleaned thoroughly.

#### 4.3 Operational Safety

- (a) Hot water accessible to children will be maintained at the temperature of 20 degrees. Thermostatic valves to be tested and serviced annually by a plumber.
- (b) A risk assessment will be conducted prior to any excursion taking place. Particular attention will be focused upon water safety where the excursion is near a body of water.
- (c) Adults are not allowed to consume hot drinks within the play and outdoor areas of the centre.

## 2. Feedback

2.1 Families and staff may provide feedback about this document by emailing [admin@baringa.org.au](mailto:admin@baringa.org.au).

## 3. Approval and Review Details

Approval and Review	Details
Approval Authority	Baringa Board
Administrator	Centre Management
Next Review Date	November 2020

History	Details
Original Approval Authority and Date	November 2017
Amendment Authority and Date	N/A

## Appendix

Education and Care Services National Regulations	
101	Conduct of risk assessment for excursions
115	Premises designed to facilitate supervision
122	Educators must be working directly with children to be included in ratios
126	Centre based services-general educator qualifications
168	Education and care service must have policies and procedures
274	Swimming pools (NSW)