



Playgroup Policy Water Safety

Purpose of this requirement

To ensure the safety of children when interacting with water.

Definitions

Swimming pool

- An excavation or structure that is capable of being filled with water to a depth of 30 centimetres or more; and is capable of being used for swimming, bathing, wading, paddling or other human aquatic activities; and is used, designed, manufactured or adapted for the purpose mentioned above, despite its current use and includes spas and wading pools (other than portable wading pools), The Building Act 1975.

Portable wading pool

- A pool capable of being filled with water to a depth of less than 30 centimetres; and has a volume of no more than 2,000 litres; and has no filtration or pumping system.

Pool safety certificate

- This certificate is issued by a licensed pool safety inspector, and is required when selling, buying or leasing a property with a pool. Pool safety certificates are valid for one year for a shared pool and two years for a non-shared pool.

Applicability of this requirement

When children are engaging in or near water based experiences, staff will:

- Directly supervise children at all times.
- Fill troughs to a safe level as identified using the SAFER risk assessment process.
- Ensure children do not drink the water.
- Empty all containers and troughs after use.
- Implement correct manual handling techniques when moving or emptying containers or troughs of water.
- Educate children that tank water is not for consumption.
- Ensure tank water is safe for children to interact with during play.

To ensure the health and safety of children in their environment, staff will:

Conduct playground checks before children enter the playground to ensure no containers or pooling of water is accessible to children unless directly supervised.

Ensure cleaning buckets are emptied immediately after use and are not left in areas accessible to children.

Responsibilities

This requirement is to be implemented by: all Maipoon playgroup staff must comply with this procedure.