

## **Water Safety Policy**

### **Division 2 – health, safety and wellbeing of children, subsection 46**

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#### **Authorisation:**

This policy has been adopted by the GNH Committee of Management

#### **Scope:**

This policy applies to children enrolled at the centre, families, staff, volunteers and community.

#### **Rationale:**

Greenhills Occasional Care has a responsibility to protect the health, safety and wellbeing of each child at all times. Drowning is the leading cause of death for children aged 1-4 years in Australia. While most drowning occurs in backyard swimming pools, it is important to be aware that children can drown in as little as 6cm of water.

#### **Aim:**

Greenhills Neighbourhood House Water Safety Policy has been developed to ensure that all children are adequately supervised and safe around water whilst in our care.

#### **Our water safety strategies:**

- Children will be supervised at all times in and around any body of water including water troughs and toilets.
- In outdoor play children will be directly supervised whilst using the tap for sand play, or the water trough for wet based play.
- The thermostat on the hot water system is set to a medium temperature to ensure children are not able to scald themselves when washing hands.
- Educators are not permitted to consume hot drinks or prepare any hot drinks in any area accessible to children.

#### **Educators Role:**

Staff will ensure that they:

- Provide supervision, guidance and advice to always ensure adherence to the policy
- Ensure water troughs or containers for water play are filled to a safe level and emptied or covered securely after use.
- Empty buckets used for cleaning immediately after use. No cleaning buckets are to be left in areas or accessible to children.
- Discourage children from drinking grey water. Provide clean drinking water at all times.
- Supervise children in toilet facilities within the service.