



Water Safety Policy

Water activities provide children with opportunities to access a variety of experiences for learning and fun. Cobbler Creek OSHC recognises the risks posed by bodies of water and takes the safety of children and educators involved in water-based activities and around bodies of water seriously. Every precaution is taken so that children are able to enjoy water-based activities safely. Risk assessments will be carried out for programmed water-based activities.

Cobbler Creek OSHC will ensure the safety of children around bodies of water by:

- Undertaking a risk assessment for the proposed activity
- Ensuring educators are placed in positions that allow them to directly and actively supervise any child accessing a body of water.
- Using venues that provide additional supervision in form of life guards

Definition of a body of water

The service recognises the following locations are bodies of water:

- Swimming pools
- Wading pools
- Lakes
- Ponds
- The sea
- Creeks
- Dams
- Rivers
- Equipment used by the service that could contain 5cm or more of water and would allow a child to submerge both nose and mouth at the same time

The number of Educators present is to be determined by a risk assessment of the proposed activity. The adequacy of supervision and educators present during water-based activities shall be determined by:

- Numbers, ages and abilities of the children
- Number and positioning of Educators
- Areas where children are playing, in particular the visibility and accessibility of these areas
- Risk in the environment and experiences provided to children

The Director/Assistant Director

The Director/Assistant Director is responsible for:

- Looking for venues that provide additional supervision
- Conducting a risk assessment on any venue the service plans to visit, to ensure that the service is able to provide appropriate levels of supervision
- Ensuring a risk assessment is carried out on any activity the service sets up that allows children to access a body of water
- Ensuring educators position themselves in the environment so that every child is within sight of an Educator at all times and supervision is direct and vigilant
- On a swimming excursion, having some educators designated to supervise children from within the body of water

National Regulations	
Regulation 100	Risk assessment must be conducted before excursion
National Quality Framework	
Quality Area 2.2.1	Supervision
Quality Area 4.1.1	Organisation of Educators

Effective from April 2021
Review Date: April 2024