**Water Safety Policy**

**Introduction**

The safety and supervision of children in and around water is of the highest priority. This relates to water play, excursions near water, hot water, drinking water and hygiene practices with water in the preschool environment. Children will be supervised at all times during water play experiences.

**Goals - What are we going to do?**

*Kemblawarra Public School, Preschool* will eliminate and prevent child accidents and illnesses relating to water hazards.

*Kemblawarra Public School, Preschool* staff will ensure that children’s safety and wellbeing is protected in and around water through supervision and prevention; and be promoted through the availability of clean, hygienic water for play and drinking.

**Strategies – how it will be done**

**Educators will:**

1. Provide guidance to volunteers, staff and families on the importance of children’s safety in and around water

2. Ensure work, health and safety practices incorporate approaches to safe storage of water and play
3. To prevent child accidents and illnesses relating to swimming and wading pools and other water hazards, educators will

4. Not install a swimming pool or wading pool on the premises.

5. Closely supervise children near any water at all times, never leave children alone near any water.

6. Teach children about staying safe in and around water.

7. Ensure water troughs or containers for water play are filled to a safe level. Do not leave buckets, water play trough or any other water hazards unsupervised in the preschool premises. Empty after use and cover water trough.

8. Store equipment to prevent collection of water. Check garden after watering or rain and empty water that has collected in holes or containers.

9. Buckets of water used during cleaning after craft or throughout the day are to be filled immediately before use, supervised by an adult while in use, and emptied immediately and cleaned thoroughly after use.

10. Provide clean drinking water at all times. The 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.

11. Adults may carry and consume hot drinks only in approved thermal mug.

12. 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.

13. Keep cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) guide in outdoor play area.

14. At all times, when children are present, there must be at least one contact staff member with a current approved first aid qualification, on the premises. It is best practice for all contact staff to hold current approved First Aid Certificates.

Evaluation:

Supervision and access to water within the service is managed effectively by staff to ensure children remain safe and healthy

Links to National Quality Standard:

2.1.1 Each child’s health needs are supported

2.3.2 Every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children from harm or any hazard likely to cause injury
7.3.5 Service practices are based on effectively documented policies and procedures that are available at the service and reviewed regularly