

# TECOMA PRIMARY SCHOOL OSHC WATER SAFETY POLICY

## POLICY RATIONALE

Tecoma Primary School OSHC currently does not have excursions however, we recognise that activities involving water pose risks.

Tecoma Primary School OSHC identifies 'Water-based activities' as activities that engage children in an environment where they are in and/or near water.

Tecoma Primary School OSHC is committed to exercising extra caution where any water-based activity or water-based excursion is delivered.

## POLICY OBJECTIVES

This policy provides clear guidelines, expectations and commitments to all staff and parents/guardians regarding child water safety. The policy details Tecoma Primary School OSHC goals for water safety for all children and staff. The Policy commits to safe water practices and children playing safely in and around water.

## WATER SAFE PROCEDURES

- The staff-student ratio of 1:7 apply to all swimming activities.
- Parents must provide the completed and signed 'Swimming Ability Permission Form' for their child to participate in the swimming component of the program and/or any water-based activities.

## STAFF REQUIREMENTS

- All educators supervising swimming or water-based activities, must be familiar with all relevant medical information of each child and where appropriate, measures are taken.
- All educators communicate and are made aware of all children's illnesses, individual needs, special equipment and/or medical conditions that may exist before entering the pool area.
- At all times, a minimum of one staff member will have their approved first aid and CPR training qualifications.
- Where educators and children are divided into groups and separate across a venue, all educators carry mobile phones and are contactable by all other staff members at any time.
- Educators discuss the rules of being near and around water with children before arriving at a pool and/or water-based activity.
- Educators are to ensure that they understand the swimming capability and competency of each child participating in swimming or water-based activities.
- Educators explain to each child how to signal for help, if needed, before entering the pool or water-based activity.
- Educators are positioned in a manner that supervision of all children occurs at all times near water.
- Educators ensure that children walk and never run when near water.



## COMMUNICATION

This policy will be communicated to Tecoma Primary School community in the following ways:

- Available publicly on our school's website
- Made available in hard copy from the OSHC program upon request.