



This information relates specifically to and meets the requirements of Regulation 168 of the *Education and Care Services National Regulations*.

Strathalbyn Kindergarten and Occasional Care understands the risks that water based activities pose and will undertake measures to protect the health and safety of all children involved in water based activities.

Educators will:

- complete a risk assessment before allowing children to engage in water based activities at the service or on excursion and ensure all risks are minimised or eliminated where possible
- ensure no child swims in any water without:
 - written permission from parents
 - appropriate educator/child ratios in place and adequate supervision
- closely supervise children at all times and never leave any child unattended near water
- ensure children with diarrhoea, upset stomachs, open sores or nasal infections do not swim or play in water
- ensure all children wear appropriate swimmers in a pool, go to the toilet before entering the pool, and follow correct toileting hygiene practices while in the pool
- remove all children immediately if a child passes a bowel motion in the pool, advise pool managers if at a public pool, disinfect and if practical empty a home pool or trough.

To prevent accidents and illnesses related to water based activities at the preschool service, educators will:

- fill wading pools with less than 300 mm of water
- cover all water containers like ponds, spas, nappy buckets, bathtubs or ensure they are inaccessible to children at all times
- immediately empty all wading pools/water troughs etc. after every use and store in a way that prevents water collecting in them (e.g. upright/inverted)
- ensure children's play areas are safely fenced off from water hazards like rivers, dams, creeks, lakes, irrigation channels, water-wells
- check premises after rain or regular watering and empty/dissipate water that has collected in pot-holes or containers
- ensure all pools and troughs in which children play are hygienically cleaned, disinfected and chlorinated (larger pools) in accordance with the instructions on the relevant maintenance container. For wading pools and troughs educators will:
 - remove leaves and debris daily
 - hose away surface dirt
 - scrub inside with disinfectant and rinse it away before refilling.

This policy is reviewed every 12 months.

Sourced by: Education Standards Board Water Safety Fact Sheets, preschool staff and parents/community, governing council members