

Policy statement.

We aim to provide a safe and secure outdoor environment where children have access to a variety of activities, and are encouraged to participate.

Considerations.

National Standards Section 1.1 (Space requirements)

National Standards Section 2.10 (Health of Staff and children).

OH&S Regulations

Work Cover Act 8(1)(2)

Procedure.

- * The outdoor area will be smoke free and alcohol free.
- * The outdoor area shall be easily accessible to the staff and children and will be inspected daily for any obstacles or dangerous items. These items shall be disposed of in a safe and careful manner prior to the children playing in the area.
- * Areas will be made available for children to play independently or in groups of varying size.
- * Designated areas for play enables adequate supervision to be maintained.
- * Clear boundaries shall be set and enforced to maintain a safe and happy environment for all children.
- * Shaded areas will be provided wherever possible when setting up activities.
- * Shoes must be worn by staff and children whilst outdoors at all times unless engaging in programmed activities where shoes are not required.

Use of other outdoor venues will be considered where:

- * Access to the area is safe
- * Adequate supervision can be maintained.
- * The area is considered of value to the children's physical development and personal comfort.
- * Where adequate staff/child ratios can be maintained both indoors and outdoors.

WATER PLAY

During the warmer months (with water restrictions considered) staff may organise water play activities in sheltered/shaded areas. The following guidelines must be adhered to:

- * Hats and sunscreen must be worn at all times.
- * Children must wear sun smart swimmers or old clothes and have a spare set of clothes to change into.
- * Parents must inform staff if their child has an ear condition and cannot get wet.
- * Children may not throw water at each other.

Reviewed and updated by committee on 31st March 2010