

In centre Activity - Risk Assessment & Benefit Analysis

Water Play

Ongoing activity in School holidays throughout 2017

Address: At Girraween Centre, 216 Targo Road Girraween

Proposed activities: Water Play – Games and activities involving water in buckets, water balloons and spray water.

Proposed Area: Asphalt area/Area C and or friendship Garden.

Number of Children attending: max number enrolled (Licensed for 130 children)

Number of Educators: minimum 2 educators Max 9

Educator to child Ratio: 1 educator: 15 children

Checklist: -

- First aid Kit
- Signs and notices

RISK BENEFITS LINKED TO MY TOP OUTCOMES: -

Play is great for children's well-being and development. When Planning and providing play opportunities, the goal is not to eliminate risk, but to weigh up the risks and benefits.

(MYTOP – “My time our place – framework for school age care in Australia, 2011)

Outcome 1 – Children have a strong sense of Identity = Water play is a wonderful opportunity for children to establish and maintain respectful, trusting relationships with peers and educators alike, through children expressing to peers and educators their own personal limits and expectations and respecting the wishes of others, children will develop a sense of belonging. Children will be able to develop and demonstrate negotiation and decision making skills. It will allow time for children to relax and have fun with peers in a safe and inclusive environment that will support the development of peer friendships amongst the group, and allow children the opportunity to just be children and enjoy the simple pleasures of engaging in water play. Children will have free choice if they wish to participate in this activity, and it provides an opportunity for children to engage in leisure activities with peers at the service. Water play provides an opportunity to take risk in their decision making and to cope with the unexpected. All this ensures children *feel safe, secure, and supported (1.1)* here at the service and with their relationships with one another and educators at the service as well as ensuring *children develop their autonomy, inter-dependence, resilience and sense of agency (1.2)*. Children will also be able to *'learn to interact in relation to others with care, empathy and respect (1.4)* through children to spend a large proportion of their time with their peers, in group play, engaging in and contribute to this play and leisure experiences. They will be provided with the opportunity to negotiate play spaces, with an awareness for others, and allowing individuals the opportunity to express a range of views, emotions and thoughts constructively.

Outcome 2 – Children are connected with and contribute to their world = By engaging in water play at the centre, children will be provided with ways that they can participate in and contribute to group activities with peers. It will provide children to learn how to negotiate roles, space and relationships in play experiences with one another, and build on their own social experiences to explore other ways of being. This activity at the service will allow us to promote a sense of community within the school age care setting, through children negotiating space, contribute to decision making about the use of this space and express opinions on matters that affect them and learning to read others behaviour and actions and respond accordingly. This all allows *'Children to develop a sense of belonging to groups and communities and understand the reciprocal rights and responsibilities necessary for active community participation (2.1)*. This ongoing activity will allow multiple opportunities for *Children to become aware of fairness (2.3)* through children being engaged in conversations about respectful and equal relations, in both spontaneous and planned discussions and experiences, between and with children and educators.

Outcome 3 – Children have a strong sense of Wellbeing = *Children become strong in their social and emotional wellbeing’ (3.1)* through water play at the service by sharing humour, happiness and joy of being with peers and enjoying time to play and have fun with peers and educators. It provides a wonderful opportunity for children to develop confidence in social environments and settings and develop trust in others that their wishes will be respected. ‘In addition a strong sense of wellbeing will be maintained through *‘children taking increasing responsibility for their own health and physical wellbeing’ (3.2)*. Children will be having fun, while participating in physical play that will challenge them, help develop self-confidence, in a safe environment where they can make new connections with peers. It will provide children who don’t normally engage in physical play to get enthusiastic about being involved in outdoors play and for all children to seek out positive experiences.

Outcome 5 – Children are Effective Communicators = Water Play will provide an opportunity for children to both listen to peers and communicate ideas, which will assist children to have a sense of belonging amongst their peers as well as self-confidence. It will provide an opportunity to express ideas and feelings as well as listen to the ideas and feelings of others. It provides a great opportunity for children to interact socially with others in a relaxed environment. All this demonstrating that *‘children interact verbally and non-verbally with others for a range of purposes’ (5.1)*

Activity/Hazard	Risk (use matrix)	Risk Control	Who	When
Medical conditions such as grommets	moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Parents/Guardians will be asked to inform us if there are any conditions we need to know about in relation to their child and water play. Parents have been asked to provide ear plugs etc. for their child. This will be indicated on vacation care booking form. ✓ A list will be compiled of all children with any medical conditions which may affect water play and distributed to all staff so that they are aware of any issues affecting the children. It will include all wishes/instructions that parents and Guardians have outlined to manage condition (e.g. – grommets – ensure child wears ear plugs). This list will be made available to all educators prior to activity. ✓ All educators are to familiarise themselves with above list and which children need to be assisted on the day and ensure family instructions are followed. 	Vacation Care coordinator & Parents and Guardians Vacation Care Coordinator All Educators	Prior to activity day Prior to activity On activity day
Distress from water play	moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Educators must ensure that children follow all rules all outlined for safety. ✓ Educators to supervise children, any children showing any distress, are to be removed from the environment instantly. Wherever possible, reason for distress established and remove or resolve issue to allow child to re-enter play. ✓ Children to be informed prior to play that the wishes of other must be respected (eg – x child tells others they don’t want to be wet in the face etc). Children informed that others have the right to say ‘no’ ‘stop’ etc and that they need to recognise this. If they can’t respect the wishes of other’s then they will not be able to play. 	All Educators All Educators All Educators	On activity day On activity day On activity day
Drowning – buckets/body’ of water	High	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Educator to be positioned near all buckets and body of water to ensure no child places head in water. ✓ All educators should be actively supervising and engaging in play with the children. Water play will be contained to a single area at the centre so that a high level of supervision can be maintained. ✓ Buckets and bodies of water to be tipped out and drained at the conclusion of water play or when these areas are left unattended – follow ACI water safety policy. 	All Educators All Educators All Educators	On activity day On activity day On activity day

Activity/Hazard	Risk (use matrix)	Risk Control	Who	When
Drowning – buckets/body' of water Cont....		✓ Educators to be rostered on this day who have CPR training and current first aid certificate.	Vacation Care Coordinator	On activity day
Behaviour, inappropriate or unsafe	Low	✓ Children that don't follow the rules set down by the educators, and repeatedly display behaviour that may affect the safety of themselves or others, will be guided to other activities.	Educators	On activity day
Weather - Heat - Wet Weather	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Parents/Guardians informed on booking that children will be required to have appropriate sun covering (t-shirt to cover shoulders, hat, sunscreen etc.) on water play days to ensure children don't get burnt. ✓ Children to wear appropriate sun protection throughout the day and utilise shaded areas. ACI sun protection policy to be followed at all times. ✓ In wet weather this activity will not go ahead. 	Vac Care coordinator/ Parents/ Guardians Educators Educators	Prior to activity day On activity day On activity day
Slip over/trip/stub toe	Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ✓ Any running activities to take place up at area c or in friendship garden. ✓ No running on hard surfaces rule to be enforced by all educators. ✓ Parents/guardians asked to pack children shoes that they don't mind children getting wet to help prevent accidental tripping and toe stubbing. 	Educators Educators Vac Care Coordinator	On activity day On activity day Prior to activity day.

Plan Prepared By: Rachael Bajo

Position: Vacation Care Coordinator/Assistant Manager

Date: 16th December 2017