Water Play - Risk Assessment

Lapstone Activity Centre

Risk Rating Key

Very Low/ Low/ Moderate / High / Very High

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Activity	Hazard	Risk Assessment (use Matrix)	Control Measure	Who	When
Water Play Activities	Slips, trips and falls on wet surfaces resulting in sprains, fractures, bumps, bruises and grazes	Moderate	Safety checklist completed prior to activity. Activity conducted on suitable surface free from hazards and obstructions. Educators monitor wet areas and modify activity if excessive pooling occurs. Children wear enclosed footwear. Running rules discussed and reinforced.	All Educators	Before and during activity
Water Play Activities	Collision between children during active play	Moderate	Large play space selected. Activities spaced away from other games and equipment. Educators actively supervise and intervene where play becomes unsafe.	All Educators	During activity
Water Play Activities	Water-related incident or unsafe behaviour around water equipment	High	Continuous active supervision maintained. Clear water play rules discussed before commencement. Unsafe behaviour results in removal from activity. Water containers emptied immediately after use. No child permitted to place head over or inside buckets, tubs or containers.	All Educators	During activity
Water Play Activities	Sunburn, heat exhaustion, heat stress, dehydration or sunstroke	Moderate	UV levels checked prior to activity. Children and educators wear hats when UV is 3 or above. Sunscreen applied at least 20 minutes prior to activity and reapplied as required. Drinking water readily available. Regular water breaks encouraged. Activity modified or ceased during extreme heat conditions.	All Educators	Before and during activity
Water Play Activities	Hypothermia or excessive cooling from prolonged exposure to water and weather conditions	Moderate	Weather monitored throughout activity. Duration of water play adjusted according to conditions. Children dried promptly and changed into dry clothing if required. Activity ceased if children become excessively cold or distressed.	All Educators	During activity
Water Play Activities	Asthma, allergic reactions or medical emergency	Moderate	Educators review Medical Management Plans prior to activity. First Aid Kit, Ventolin, spacer and medication accompany group. Educators follow medical management and emergency procedures.	All Educators	Before and during activity

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Water Play Activities	Insect bites, stings, welts and skin irritation	Moderate	Play area checked for insect nests, bindis, weeds and hazards. Children monitored for allergic reactions and irritation. First aid administered where required.	All Educators	Before and during activity
Water Play Activities	Unsafe weather conditions including storms, lightning or extreme heat	High	Weather forecasts monitored before and during activity. Activity suspended immediately during lightning, storms or unsafe weather conditions. Children moved to a safe indoor environment.	Responsible Person / Educators	Before and during activity
Water Play Activities	Communication delays during an emergency	Medium	Walkie-talkies and work mobile phone accompany group. Emergency contact information accessible at all times.	All Educators	During activity
Water Play Activities	Inadequate supervision	Moderate	Educator-to-child ratios maintained at all times. Active supervision strategies including PAT (Position, Awareness and Teamwork) implemented. Educators strategically positioned to observe all children.	All Educators	At all times
Water Play Activities	Slips, trips and falls on wet surfaces resulting in sprains, fractures, bumps, bruises and grazes	Moderate	Safety checklist completed prior to activity. Activity conducted on suitable surface free from hazards and obstructions. Educators monitor wet areas and modify activity if excessive pooling occurs. Children wear enclosed footwear. Running rules discussed and reinforced.	All Educators	Before and during activity
Water Play Activities	Collision between children during active play	Moderate	Large play space selected. Activities spaced away from other games and equipment. Educators actively supervise and intervene where play becomes unsafe.	All Educators	During activity
Water Play Activities	Water-related incident or unsafe behaviour around water equipment	Moderate	Continuous active supervision maintained. Clear water play rules discussed before commencement. Unsafe behaviour results in removal from activity. Water containers emptied immediately after use. No child permitted to place head over or inside buckets, tubs or containers.	All Educators	During activity

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Water Play Activities	Hypothermia or excessive cooling from prolonged exposure to water and weather conditions	Moderate	Weather monitored throughout activity. Duration of water play adjusted according to conditions. Children dried promptly and changed into dry clothing if required. Activity ceased if children become excessively cold or distressed.	All Educators	During activity
Water Play Activities	Asthma, allergic reactions or medical emergency	Moderate	Educators review Medical Management Plans prior to activity. First Aid Kit, Ventolin, spacer and medication accompany group. Educators follow medical management and emergency procedures.	All Educators	Before and during activity
Water Play Activities	Insect bites, stings, welts and skin irritation	Moderate	Play area checked for insect nests, bindis, weeds and hazards. Children monitored for allergic reactions and irritation. First aid administered where required.	All Educators	Before and during activity
Water Play Activities	Unsafe weather conditions including storms, lightning or extreme heat	Moderate	Weather forecasts monitored before and during activity. Activity suspended immediately during lightning, storms or unsafe weather conditions. Children moved to a safe indoor environment.	Responsible Person / Educators	Before and during activity
Water Play Activities	Communication delays during an emergency	Moderate	Walkie-talkies and work mobile phone accompany group. Emergency contact information accessible at all times.	All Educators	During activity
Water Play Activities	Inadequate supervision	Moderate	Educator-to-child ratios maintained at all times. Active supervision strategies including PAT (Position, Awareness and Teamwork) implemented. Educators strategically positioned to observe all children.	All Educators	At all times

Completed by: Leesa Mantzos **Signature:** **Date:** 02.06.2026	**Approved By:** **Signature:** **Date:**

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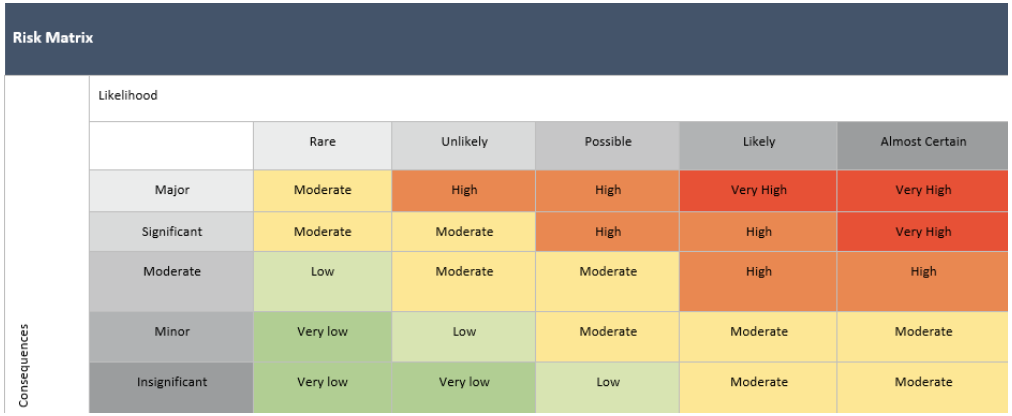

Risk Matrix					
Consequences / Likelihood	Rare	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost Certain
Major	Moderate	High	High	Very High	Very High
Significant	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	Very High
Moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High	High
Minor	Very low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
Insignificant	Very low	Very low	Low	Moderate	Moderate

Risk Assessment Communication Record -

Date of Review: 02.06.26	**Person/s who completed Review: Leesa Mantzos**		**Date of Review:**	**Person/s who completed Review:**	
Changes Made: YES / NO			**Changes Made: YES / NO**		
Notes: Updated to new Format**,** Additional Control Measures *First Aid trained educators present during all water play activities. *Emergency evacuation bag accompanies the group. *Children reminded of service expectations including Be Safe, Be Responsible and Be Respectful. *Water play equipment inspected prior to use. *Standing water removed immediately following completion of the activity. *Incident, injury or near-miss reports completed where required.			**Notes:**		
Educator/Staff Name	**I have read and understood this Risk Assessment (tick)**	**Date & Signature**	**Educator/Staff Name**	**I have read and understood this Risk Assessment (tick)**	**Date & Signature**

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