



Water Safety Policy PP15V01

Effective date of Policy: December 2020

Date of next review: December 2021

Be Heard Philosophy

As a part of our mission to provide high quality 'Care' to our children, it is essential that children are in a safe but engaging environment.

AIM: To ensure the safety and supervision of children when in or around water. This relates to water play, excursions near water, and hot water, drinking water and hygiene practices with water in a Be Heard environment. Children will be supervised at all times during water play experiences.

1. Responsibility

- Management
- Staff
- Families
- Visitors

2. Implementation

PRINCIPLES

- Be Heard believes first and foremost that all children should feel safe and protected at all times. Be Heard believes that staff should have appropriate responses and procedures to ensure the health and safety of all children
- The Be Heard Water Safety Policy reflects the Be Heard philosophy and identifies safe protective behaviours for all persons who access Be Heard sessions
- Be Heard has a duty of care to ensure that all persons are provided with a high level of safety and protection during Be Heard sessions
- It is understood by staff, children and families that there is a shared responsibility between Be Heard and all stakeholders that the Water Safety Policy and procedures are accepted as a high priority

FAMILY OBLIGATIONS

Families are encouraged to ensure they have read and understood the Be Heard practices and child safe environments policies.

BE HEARD PROCEDURES

- Be Heard will ensure all staff adhere to the water safety policy
- Be Heard will ensure that health and safety practices incorporate approaches to safe storage of water and water play

- Be Heard will conduct a risk assessment in accordance with the requirements prior to taking children on an excursion, which contains or may contain water
- Be Heard will ensure at least one staff who holds a current approved first aid qualification must be in attendance at all times

STAFF PROCEDURES

- Staff participate in an induction process prior to their first shift at Be Heard and ensure they are aware of the Policies and Procedures

It is essential that all staff ensure that children only use water play equipment if:

- it can be easily emptied by one person,
- it is emptied immediately after each use and thoroughly cleaned,
- it is stored safely (and in such a way as to prevent any natural water collection), and
- it is age appropriate and presents no danger to children

Note – Young children are especially vulnerable and can drown in less than 6 centimetres of water. Staff will closely supervise children at all times near water play experiences and never leave the children alone near water including near sinks, puddles, containers filled with water as well as water play activities and equipment

Sources and References

- www.nhmrc.gov.au

3. Review

Date Reviewed	Modifications	Next Policy Review Date
December 2020	Creation of Policy	December 2021

IMPORTANT NOTICE AND DISCLAIMER

This is an important notice to all Families, staff, contractors, and other users of this Policy.

1. This Policy has been prepared by Be Heard based on the information available as at the issue date. Be Heard reserves the right to vary this Policy at any time, including to take into account any changes to the legislation and legislative instruments that may apply from time to time.
2. While all reasonable care is taken in preparing this Policy, Be Heard does not make any warranty about or accept any responsibility for whether the Policy complies with, accurately interprets or adequately implements all legislation and legislative instruments that may apply from time to time.
3. To the greatest extent permitted by law, Be Heard disclaims all liability to any person in respect of anything, and of the consequences of anything, done or omitted to be done by any such person in reliance, whether wholly or partially, upon any information presented in this Policy.