Water Safety Policy

Aim
The Peter Toms Early Learning Centre aims to stop accidents and illness relating to children in swimming pools and other water activities to meet with Australian Standards. In Australian children aged 1-4 years, drowning is the leading cause of death. While drowning generally occurs in backyard pools, it should always be remembered that children drown in as little as 5cm of water. Other situations where water can be a danger to small children include: any swimming areas e.g. beaches, rivers, lakes, dams and also household situations e.g. wading pools, spas, bathtubs, toilets, nappy buckets, fishponds, fountains, pet drinking bowls.

Implementation
To stop these accidents and illnesses relating to swimming pools and other water situations our Centre will ensure that:

- Any child who learns swimming and water safety at school has prior written permission from a parent/caregiver
- Appropriate staff/child ratios exist.
- The supervising staff members have a first aid certificate
- The boys are closely supervised near water play activities
- All water trays and activities with 5cm or more depth of water will be emptied immediately after the session has finished
- All water trays and storage that can collect water will be checked after rain and emptied before the session begins

Who is affected by this policy?
Children, families and staff

Legislative Requirements
Children’s Services Regulations 2009
Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004
National Childcare Accreditation Council

Sources
National Quality Standard
Occupational Health and Safety Act 2004

Review
The review will be conducted by:
* The Peter Toms ELC staff
* Families

Policy created: 10 August 2012