

SWIMMING PROGRAM POLICY

*The Currajong School takes a zero-tolerance approach to child abuse and is fully committed to ensuring that its strategies, policies, procedures, and practices meet all **Child Safe Standards as specified in Ministerial Order No. 870 (2015)***

RATIONALE

- To develop confident and competent swimmers in a safe and positive environment with an emphasis on working toward aquatic safety, skill acquisition and enjoyment.

AIMS

- To ensure that the swim program is safely conducted.
- To develop in students the knowledge and confidence to participate in aquatic activities.
- To enhance in students a sense of fitness, health and well-being.
- To ensure that participation in aquatic activities is a positive experience.
- To enrich and extend learning opportunities and social skills beyond the classroom.

IMPLEMENTATION

- Documentation from the swim venue must affirm that it is properly accredited and licensed and that all swim instructors and lifeguards are fully qualified and trained in CPR.
- Swimming instructors and lifeguards attached to the swim venue are approved by The Currajong School to provide the instructional and educational elements of the swim program.
- Our teaching staff will be present and have overall responsibility for the swim program and will establish areas of responsibility with swim venue instructors and lifeguards. The students will be supported in the water by the teaching assistants as required.
- Minimum overall DET staff-student ratios (1:10), will be adhered to or improved upon at all times and staff numbers will include swim venue instructors and lifeguards as well as The Currajong School staff.
- Our staff will be in attendance at all times to transport groups to and from the venue (see Excursions and Off-Site Activities Policy), oversee the program, and supervise students in the pool, change rooms and toilets.

- Our teaching staff should keep a clear and accurate attendance list of the group before travelling to, and leaving from, the swim venue. Students should be checked off this list at the common assembly point on arrival and on departure from the pool.
- A copy of the attendance list should be forwarded to the school office prior to departure from the school.

FIRST AID/MEDICATION

- A First Aid kit, including an asthma kit and mobile phone, medications (including EpiPens), and a folder containing copies of medical consent forms should be taken to the swim centre and ready for use.
- Our staff should be familiar with the medical histories of students.
- Student medications should be the responsibility of staff members attached to the students' class groups.
- Students with contagious infections, colds or papillomas will not be permitted to attend the swim program until they have recovered.

RISK MANAGEMENT

- A risk assessment matrix, to identify potential risks should be completed before and signed by the Principal and a member of staff.
- Prior to the commencement of each session, students should be reminded of safe swimming rules, expected standards of behaviour and emergency procedures relevant to the swim venue.
- Staff should be prepared for, and able to cope with, an emergency rescue and CPR.
- Staff should be individually positioned around the pool in order that all students are able to be seen and fully supervised. Some staff may be required to be in the pool to assist the students. On most occasions this will be the teaching assistants.
- All students should wear red rash vests as designated by Currajong for increased safety and ease of identification whilst in the pool.
- On the advice of classroom teachers, younger and less predictable students, may need to be 'tagged' for 1:1 supervision to and from the venue and throughout the session by a nominated staff member. These staff may be required to get into the pool.
- No student should be in the change rooms or toilets without staff supervision. Our school will utilise the school change rooms, or the family change rooms at the venue.
- All attending staff should have mobile phones available so that, in the event of an emergency, accident or injury, they are able to take emergency action and immediately notify the Principal.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as per our three-year review cycle or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances.

Approval date:	Approved by:	Next review:
October 2021	School Board	October 2024



The Currajong School acknowledges the traditional owners of this country throughout Australia and their continuing connection to land and community. We pay our respects to them and their cultures and to the Elders past, present and emerging.