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| Applies to | Intereach Family Day Care (FDC) and Intereach Out Of School Hours (OOSH) | | | | |
| Policy | NQS Two: Children's Health and Safety Policy | | | | |
| Version | 2.0 | Date approved | 1/11/2022 | Next review date | 1/11/2025 |

1. Objective

Intereach Children's Services aims to prevent scalding of children in care by implementing safety measures.

Burns and scalds are a major cause of serious injury to children between 0 and 14 years. Hot water can be deadly to children with around 1,200 children in Australia under five years of age attending hospital emergency departments each year for the treatment of scalds. Approximately one in four of these children will be admitted to a hospital.

2. Responsibilities

It is the responsibility of the Nominated Supervisor to:

- ensure all handwashing taps are either regulated to a maximum of 50°C, covered with a lockable device, mixer tap lock or switched off. Options included fitting a:
 - tempering valve – these are fitted to the water pipeline and mix hot and cold water to a specific temperature, adjustable between 35°C and 50°C, or,
 - hot water shutdown devices – these are fitted to the end of a tap and automatically cut off water flow once the water reaches the pre-set temperature.

It is the responsibility of Educators and staff to:

- adequately supervisor children at all time; and,
- be aware and implement hot water procedure.

3. Procedure

- Children under school age do not have unsupervised access to any hot water supply.
- Children of school age do not have unsupervised access to any hot water supply unless the hot water supply is regulated so as to keep it below the temperature at which a child can be scalded.
- Hot food/drink preparation and consumption is kept away from areas that are accessible to children, at the service and while on an excursion.
- Where possible, thermal mugs with a lid that securely screws onto the mug which can be closed to stop spillage are used when having hot drinks around children.
- Cooking experiences with children are supervised and the use of hot water is avoided where possible.

4. National Quality Framework

| Elements | Concept | Descriptor |
|--------------|-----------------------|---|
| 2.2 | Safety | Each child is protected |
| 2.1.1 | Wellbeing and comfort | Each child's wellbeing and comfort is provided for, including appropriate opportunities to meet each child's need for sleep, rest and relaxation. |

| Elements | Concept | Descriptor |
|----------|-----------------------------------|---|
| 2.2.1 | Supervision | At all times, reasonable precautions and adequate supervision ensure children are protected from harm and hazard. |
| 2.2.2 | Incident and emergency management | Plans to effectively manage incidents and emergencies are developed in consultation with relevant authorities, practised and implemented. |
| 7.1.2 | Management systems | Systems are in place to manage risk and enable the effective management and operation of a quality service. |

| 5. Context | |
|--|---|
| 5.1. Standards or other external requirements | <p>Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (2017) National Quality Standards.</p> <p>Australian Children's Education and Care Quality Authority (2017) Guide to the National Quality Framework</p> <p>Better Health Channel (Vic). Burns and Scalds. Accessed September 2022 https://www.betterhealth.vic.gov.au/health/conditionsandtreatments/burns-and-scalds-children</p> <p>Kids Health NSW – Burns and Scalds – Accessed September 2022 https://kidshealth.schn.health.nsw.gov.au/burns-and-scalds</p> |
| 5.2. Legislation or other requirements | <p>Education and Care Services National Regulations consolidated 2017</p> <p>Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010</p> |
| 5.3. Internal Documentation | <p>FDC Home Safety Audit</p> <p>Medical Management and Risk Minimisation Plan</p> <p>Benefit Risk Assessment</p> |

| 6. Document control | | | |
|---------------------|---------------|---|------------------|
| Version | Date approved | Approved by | Next review date |
| 1.0 | 3/03/2020 | R. Phillips - Acting Senior Manager, Children and Family Services | 3/03/2023 |
| 2.0 | 1/11/2022 | M.Tai - General Manager Operations | 1/11/2025 |