

## Front Courtyard Play Policy

### Rationale

The purpose of this procedure is to ensure children remain safe while accessing the front courtyard area during play times, including wet weather conditions. This policy outlines supervision requirements, safe equipment use and boundary expectations to maintain a secure and well-monitored environment.

### Policy Statement

It is important that children are actively supervised when accessing the front courtyard. The area will be used for low-risk play experiences and educators will ensure safe boundaries, appropriate ratios and compliance with fire safety requirements.

### Legislative Requirements

National Law: Sections 165, 167

National Regulations: Regulations 99, 103, 115, 122

National Quality Framework: Quality Area 2.2, 2.3

Early Years Learning Framework: 3.2, 1.1

### Implementation

#### During Play Time (Including Wet Weather):

#### Access to the Courtyard

Educators will:

1. Determine whether the courtyard is suitable for use based on weather and safety conditions.
2. Allow students access to either the classroom or the front courtyard during wet weather, depending on supervision and safety considerations.
3. Clearly explain boundaries and expectations before students access the courtyard.
4. Ensure the pool gate always remains closed. The gate will remain unlocked as it serves as a designated fire exit.
5. Visually check the pool gate regularly to ensure it remains closed and secure.



## Supervision

Educators will:

1. Ensure a minimum of one teacher is actively always supervising the courtyard.
2. Provide two educators if required to meet educator-to-child ratio requirements.
3. Position themselves to eliminate blind spots and maintain clear visibility of all children.
4. Conduct regular headcounts.
5. Actively supervise student behaviour and equipment use.

## Approved Activities

The courtyard will be used for low-risk, small equipment play including:

- Body boards
- Chalk drawing
- Drawing materials
- Other small, approved equipment as determined by educators

Large equipment or high-risk play activities are not permitted in this space.

## Students will:

1. Remain within the designated courtyard boundaries.
2. Follow educator instructions and Preschool expectations.
3. Use equipment safely and appropriately.
4. Not touch or access the pool gate.

If a student is unable to follow safety expectations, educators may redirect them to indoor play.

## Effective

Term 1, 2026

## Date of next Review

Term 1, 2027

## Developed by

Preschool Teacher in Charge

