



## Educational Leader

*Outdoor and indoor spaces, buildings, fixtures and fittings are suitable for their purpose, including supporting the access of every child.*

**Looking at the element in detail** - A service reviewed what the NQF Guide said about element 3.1.1 and understood buildings, fixtures, fittings, and indoor and outdoor spaces must:

- be flexible, welcoming and accessible
- reflect diversity in the community
- be safe and promote health outcomes
- be environmentally sustainable
- contain safe furniture and equipment that promotes learning outcomes.

**Tokenism** is the practice of including different cultures in a limited way. These cultures will often be included in a non-threatening way, such as words in a different language on a poster, in art or in food. Sometimes other cultures will be glamorised, and made to seem really exciting and different.

Element 3.1.1 requires educators to provide spaces that reflect diversity in the community. Why have your educators chosen certain toys, books and games, or implemented certain art activities? Is there a direct link to a family or local community? Are the spaces tokenistic? What needs to change?

**‘Merchants of Cool’** Products we want are marketed to us by advertising companies. How many times have you bought something because you saw an ad? Advertising strategies allow us to believe that we really want or even need a product. Children are very susceptible to advertising. (As an experiment, educators could pick a mundane object and try and convince children that it’s the coolest and most fun thing to play with at the centre. How far can they go?)

Educators perhaps unintentionally promote a similar outcome if they guide children towards certain equipment and resources. This might happen for example, if there are established activity areas in different parts of the room eg ‘home corner.’

What do you think might happen if some of these areas were removed. Would children initiate different types of activities and play? Is this something your educators could try?

## Sun Safety

Educators will regularly check the temperature of outdoor surfaces and equipment when temperatures are high to ensure children are not exposed to surfaces which could cause burns. They will plan indoor activities if there is a risk of burns even where children are wearing shoes.

We will use a combination of sun protection measures when UV levels are 3 and over including:

- planning outdoor activities in shaded areas
- wearing sun safe hats that protect their face, neck and ears (educators, staff and children)
- wearing sun safe clothing that covers as much of the skin as possible (educators, staff and children)
- applying SPF30+ broad-spectrum water-resistant sunscreen 20 minutes before going outdoors and reapplying every 2 hours (educators, staff and children)
- ensuring babies remain in full shade when outside
- role modelling sun safe techniques
- incorporating sun protection learning into our curriculum.

## Water Safety

We will implement the following measures in relation to water safety:

- complete a risk assessment before allowing children to engage in water based activities
- ensure no child swims without written permission from parents
- closely supervise children at all times and never leave any child unattended near water
- ensure children with diarrhoea, upset stomachs, open sores or nasal infections do not swim or play in water
- ensure all children wear appropriate swimmers in a pool, go to the toilet before entering the pool, and follow correct toileting hygiene practices while in the pool
- fill wading pools with less than 300mm of water
- remove any items that could be used to climb into the fenced area of a water hazard
- display a Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation guide
- cover all water containers or ensure they are inaccessible to children
- immediately empty all wading pools/water troughs etc. after every use
- ensure children's play areas are safely fenced off from water hazards
- clean and disinfect pools etc in accordance with the instructions on the container.

Do you have any feedback or comments about this policy? Please include below.

Educator's Name	Educator's Signature

### Week 22, 25 July – 29 July 2022 – 3.1.1 Fit for purpose

Note we are now listing any Procedures which relate to the Policy reviewed. We have a comprehensive Procedure Pack (in addition to the procedures already included in the policies) which is currently part of our HR Toolkit. Please contact us on [admin@centresupport.com.au](mailto:admin@centresupport.com.au) if you would like a quote for the Kit.

Procedure - Child Safe

Procedure - Excursion

Procedure - Medical Emergency

Procedure - Serious Incident

Procedure - Supervision

Procedure - Sunscreen Application

Procedure - Water Safety

**Week 22, 25 July – 29 July 2022 – 3.1.1 Fit for purpose**

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