

Snake Safety Plan

RATIONALE

This Snake Safety Plan has been developed to ensure that the risk of someone being bitten by a snake while at Child Side School has been minimised and procedures can be safely administered when a snake is sighted on school property. The Snake Safety Plan is to be implemented throughout the year.

Implementation

- Staff discuss snake safety with children reinforcing that staff and children are never to approach or attempt to apprehend a snake.
- Contact details for snake handlers are located in front of telephone contact book in the office – ensure all staff and GC members know where to access these numbers.
- Educate children and adults about snake safety during morning meetings, newsletters, communication whiteboard etc especially at beginning of snake season.
- Snake Safety Plan available to parents and staff on the school website.
- School Administrator carry out Snake Safety Drills and record on school calendar.
- School Administrator and staff carry out regular yard inspections looking for water sources, desirable hiding places particularly around the buildings during snake season.
- Keep grass short and maintained through school maintenance program.
- Respond immediately to possible sightings of snakes – keep children indoors and call a snake handler if required, inform administration.
- Alert families before entering the school site, that snake has been sighted using the message whiteboards and available staff.
- If snake located around buildings and playgrounds, administration may activate a 'Lock Down' procedure and students may be sent home until the snake has been caught or professional advice has been sought by a snake handler.
- Administration to document snake sightings and responses in maintenance file/school calendar.
- Snake bite first aid emergency kit located in MCC building on top of white pantry.
- Snake bite first aid posters displayed in each room.
- Enclosed footwear is to be worn during high snake season.
- If someone is been bitten by a snake on school site first aid procedures for snake bite need to be implemented, an ambulance called and DES needs to be informed by School Administrator or Senior Educator via a critical incident report.

| VERSION | DATE REVIEWED | DATE RATIFIED | CHANGES MADE | AUTHOR OF CHANGES |
|----------------|----------------------|----------------------|---------------------|--------------------------|
| 1 | June 2011 | 22/6/2011 | Policy created | KM |
| 1 | | 18/9/13 | No changes | |
| 2 | Oct 2014 | 5/11/2014 | Additions made | KM |
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