

Snake Safety Policy

Introduction

At Child Side School we are committed to ensuring that the risk of someone being bitten by a snake while at the School has been minimised and procedures can be safely administered when a snake is sighted on school property.

Scope and Application

This policy applies to all employees, parents, children and community members of Child Side School. This policy will be reviewed and amended in accordance with Child Side School Policy on Policies and Policy Guidelines and Procedures Contents Schedule.

The use of the word child/children in this policy refers to students in the context of the school environment.

Related Legislation/Guidelines

- Work Health and Safety Act 2020

Related Policies

- Care and Use of Animals Policy and Procedure
- Critical and Emergency Incidents and Crisis Management Policy
- Code of Conduct Policy
- General Duty of Care Policy
- Employee Injury Management Policy
- Excursions Procedure and Guidelines
- Guiding Children's Behaviour Policy
- Playground Supervision Policy
- Risk Management Policy
- School Incursions Procedure
- Sickness and Accident Policy
- Staff Code of Conduct Policy
- Volunteers Policy and Guidelines for Engaging Volunteers
- Work Health and Safety Policy

Related Documents

- Snake Safety Plan

Policy Statement

The attached Snake Safety Plan will be implemented throughout the school year and is available to parents and staff on the school website.

Educators will discuss snake safety with children across the whole school (K-10) reinforcing that staff and children are never to approach or attempt to apprehend a snake.

Appendices

Appendix 1	Snake Safety Plan
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Version Management

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Snake Safety Plan

- Educate children and adults about snake safety during morning meetings, round tables, communication App messages and communication whiteboard especially at the beginning of snake season.
- School Administrator and Senior Educator carry out Snake Safety Drills and record on school calendar.
- School Administrator and staff carry out regular yard inspections looking for water sources and 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 a snake has been sighted using the school communication App, message whiteboards and available staff.
- If a snake is 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 inform GC of snake sightings.
- Snake bite first aid emergency kit located in ECC and MCC buildings.
- Staff members undertake required regular first aid training covering first aid for snake bites
- Enclosed footwear is to be worn during high snake season.
- If someone has been bitten by a snake on school site first aid procedures for snake bite need to be implemented, an ambulance called and DoE needs to be informed by School Administrator or Senior Educator via a critical incident report within 48 hours.
- Contact details for snake handlers are located in front of telephone message book in the office – ensure all staff and GC members know where to access these numbers.