
GUIDELINE TITLE:	Turner School Hydrotherapy Guidelines
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Context

The Turner School hydrotherapy pool is located in the David Street building and is a purpose built heated pool specifically designed for the use of students with disabilities. At Turner School this meets the needs of students with identified needs that are a part of the school community, allowing them to access the therapeutic benefits of the program within the school context.

Hydrotherapy is a very broad term encompassing many types of activity and therapy in warm water. At Turner School this term refers to water familiarisation, activities and exercise for students in the school pool heated to 34 degrees.

Related documents (Policy/policies to be read in conjunction with)

Hydrotherapy Pools- School Use (January 2016) HPS200508

Hydrotherapy Pools- School Use Procedure (ACTED)

Hydrotherapy Pool Maintenance (ACTED)

Community Use of School Facilities (ACTED)

ACT Swimming and Spa Pools code of Practice (ACTCS)

Turner School Hydrotherapy Permissions forms (this includes parental permission and medical clearance)

Identification of students

- 1.1 The Turner School Hydrotherapy Pool is for the use of students with disability and for other therapeutic purposes.
- 1.2 Hydrotherapy is not used for the primary purpose of teaching personal self-care.
- 1.3 Most children accessing Hydrotherapy at Turner School have a disability placement at the school and are identified through the ILP process for participation in a hydrotherapy program and will have hydrotherapy identified as a strategy to support an ILP goal.
- 1.4 Other children may be identified for the program by the school through work with families and therapists. For these children, the school will work in conjunction with parents/carers and therapists to plan for their participation.

Medical Status Clarification and Permissions

- 2.1 All students participating in Hydrotherapy at Turner School must have completed written clearance and/or recommendation from their registered medical practitioner or therapist prior to commencing.
- 2.2. Students having the following medical conditions as listed under the ACTED Hydrotherapy procedures must be excluded from using hydrotherapy pools:
 - hypertension
 - compromised cardiac function
 - other heart conditions
 - respiratory conditions
 - multiple sclerosis.
- 2.3 All students must have completed parental permission forms prior to commencing.

Staffing and Supervision

- 3.1 The student / staff ratio is a minimum of 2 staff to a maximum of 10 students.
- 3.2 At least one of the adults in the pool area will have First Aid Qualifications, including CPR and hoist training as required. Safe lifting-handling procedures should be used for any student transfers and lifts.
- 3.3 Turner School Business Manager will conduct an induction for all external groups using the pool (refer Attachment A).

Communication with Parents

- 4.1 Hydrotherapy is included as a strategy as a part of Individual Learning Plans and reported against as a part of the ILP review process.
- 4.2 Parents are asked to notify the school if they are aware of any reasons why a child should be excluded from the program. This is usually for medical reasons.

Student Health

- 5.1 Children who are in nappies or pull-ups are required to wear plastic pants under swimmers or wetsuit pants over their swimmers. (These are to be provided by parents/carers).
- 5.2 Students having the following conditions must be excluded from using hydrotherapy pools:
 - open wounds
 - infections such as urinary, skin, eye and ear
 - gastrointestinal conditions
 - skin conditions such as tinea, rashes
 - recent radiotherapy.

Where there is doubt about any of the above conditions, written medical advice from a doctor should be provided to the school.

- 5.3 Any faecal matter in the pool requires immediate evacuation of students out of the water and closure of the pool until it has been cleared by the pool maintenance and cleaning company (refer Turner School Hydrotherapy Pool Soiling Protocols, Attachment B). Notify the school's Business Manager immediately on 62056622.

Pool Operation and Maintenance

- 6.1 The pool water is kept at 34 Degrees Celsius.
- 6.2 Soiled nappies are placed in the nappy bin provided (in toilet area).
- 6.3 Before entering the pool all students use the toilet and shower
- 6.4 All students use the shower after using the pool.

Pool Security

- 7.1 The pool doors and security gate are kept locked when the pool is not in use.
- 7.2 The pool area is to be kept locked. The key is stored in the David Street office. Groups accessing the pool collect and return the key to this office.
- 7.3 Doors to the pool area are not to be propped open at any time. During pool use the security gate must be kept closed.
- 7.4 The external doors are not to be propped open during use and must be checked on exiting the pool area.
- 7.5 After using pools teachers must check that all individuals have vacated all pool areas including all adjacent rooms.

Risk Assessment and Safety

- 7.1 Risk assessments are completed by each participating class teacher to suit the individual needs of the class. This also includes the risk treatment and prevention measure for each identified risk. A third adult will also be in the pool area to support the safety of all.
- 7.4 Use of the pool's hoist needs to be actioned by staff members that have been trained in safe lifting and manual handling as well as the operation of the hoist.
- 7.5 No student should enter the pool area without an adult supervising them.
- 7.6 Students should be informed about expectations to ensure safe practices are followed in the water and in the pool area and reminded about safety procedures regularly.
- 7.7 External groups hiring/using the pool follow usual induction processes and expectations as outlined by the school's Business Manager.
- 7.8 A first aid kit, resuscitation chart, pool safety rules and emergency phone are mounted on a wall

Frequency of Use

- 8.1 Therapy sessions are conducted weekly, or as appropriate, by a classroom teacher and LSA.
- 8.2 Hydrotherapy sessions are of no more than 30 minutes.

Hydrotherapy Program

- 9.1 Hydrotherapy sessions will specifically target the physical therapy **and/or sensory** needs of children. If students receive physical therapy by a therapist, a hydrotherapy plan will support the teacher to accurately plan activities for each student.
- 9.2 The Hydrotherapy Program includes an initial orientation for students about pool protocols and safety. Students should receive regular reminders about safety.



Turner School Hydrotherapy Pool Induction



Welcome to the Turner School Hydrotherapy Pool. To ensure a successful experience for all, please note the following:

Pool doors and security gate:

The pool door and gate are kept locked when the pool is not in use. For security reasons, please collect the pool key from the David Street Office and return the key after use. We want to keep our students safe. During use the security gate must be kept closed. The external door is not to be propped open during use and must be checked on exiting the pool area.

Hygiene:

Wipes, gloves and wash are provided for the use of Turner School students. Please provide your own hygiene supplies. Paper towel and disinfectant is provided. If you use one of the change beds, please disinfect it after use. Please take all nappies away with you wherever possible. Used wipes and other such items are to be placed in the nappy bins provided, not in the regular bins.

Hoisting:

A hoist is located in the pool area. Please ensure you have been instructed on its use. A water wheelchair is located in the pool area.

Showering:

All swimmers are to shower before entering the water.

Accidents:

We understand that accidents happen occasionally. Wearing appropriate swimmers which will contain accidents and prevent spillage is essential. Should one of your swimmers have an accident whilst in the pool please:

- Exit the water immediately and advise other swimmers
- Contact the office ASAP on 62056622 who will ensure closure of the pool until it has been cleared by the pool maintenance and cleaning company
- Please clean up any faeces from the pool surrounds.

Lost Property:

There is a lost property box on the left as you exit the David Street building near the office. Please check regularly. Items will be disposed of twice a term.

Food and Drink:

No food or drink is permitted in this area. Water in plastic bottles is acceptable.

We take pride in our pool and are happy to share it with you. Please show your appreciation by ensuring that all equipment is put away and the area is clean and tidy before you leave.

Turner School Hydrotherapy Pool



Soiling Protocols

If evidence of faeces is found:

- contained within nappy/swimmers (ie discovered when changing student after session)
 - as solid matter escaped from nappy/swimmers
 - dispersed through pool
1. Check for evidence in pool
 2. Evacuate all people from the pool
 3. Notify the school office on 62056622 immediately
 4. The school will take action to
 - Close pool for the remainder of the day
 - Notify afternoon users /hirers that the pool is closed
 - Notify the pool cleaning services (*In the Swim* - 0408 633 423)