

<b>POLICY/PROCEDURE NAME &amp; REVIEW PROCESS</b>	<p><b>SNAKE SAFETY and EMERGENCY RESPONSE POLICY</b></p> <p>This policy and procedure has been created to provide all stakeholders with clear guidelines and transparency to our practices and procedures.</p> <p>We welcome feedback and input from all stakeholders at any time, and this policy is subject to review based on feedback or due date of annual review.</p>
<b>NATIONAL QUALITY STANDARD</b>	<p><b>QUALITY AREA 2- CHILDREN’S HEALTH AND SAFETY</b></p> <p><b>2.2 Safety</b></p> <p>2.2.1 – Supervision</p> <p>2.2.2 – Incident and emergency management.</p>
<b>NATIONAL LAW AND REGULATIONS</b>	<p>12 – Meaning of serious incident</p> <p>85 – Incident, injury, trauma and illness</p> <p>89 – First aid kits</p> <p>100 – Excursion risk assessment</p> <p>101- Conduct of risk assessment for excursion</p> <p>102- Authorisation for excursion</p> <p>136 – First aid qualification requirements</p> <p>170-Policies and procedures to be followed</p> <p>171-Policies and procedures to be kept available</p> <p>172- Notification of change to policies or procedures</p>
<b>RELATED POLICIES and RECORDS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Child Safe Environment</li> <li>▪ Emergency and Evacuation Policy</li> <li>▪ Incident Injury Trauma and Illness Policy</li> <li>▪ Physical Environment Policy</li> <li>▪ Snake safety procedure</li> <li>▪ Work Health and Safety policy</li> </ul>
<b>SCOPE OF POLICY</b>	<p>This policy applies to all children, educators, staff, families, management, students, volunteers, and visitors at our service.</p>
<b>AIM OF POLICY</b>	<p>To ensure that our service has strong guidelines, procedures, and practices in place regarding safe practices for ensuring environments are free from harm. We aim to ensure the safety, well-being, and protection of all children who attend our services. Our aim is to provide a clear policy, implement the policy, support practices relating to the policy, train staff regarding the policy and maintain and update the compliance of the policy for all our stakeholders. Through the implementation of our policies and procedures, we aim to meet National Law &amp; National Regulations, National Quality Standards, Child Safe Standards and National Principles. We will promote cultural safety for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander children, safety for children with disabilities, and inclusion for children from culturally and linguistically diverse backgrounds.</p>
<b>SERVICE IMPLEMENTATION</b>	<p><b>Implementation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Australia contains approximately 170 species of land snakes, of which around 100 are classified as venomous. High-risk species include the Inland Taipan, Eastern Brown Snake and Coastal Taipan and nearly all brown snakes. Common non-venomous species, such as the Carpet Python, may still pose safety risks if startled or provoked.</li> <li>▪ Although a large number of snake species exist nationally, only about <b>12 – 25</b> are considered potentially lethal to humans. These snakes occupy a wide range of environments—including deserts, rainforests, grasslands and coastal regions—requiring workplaces and education and care settings to remain vigilant and implement appropriate hazard-control measures in all outdoor areas.</li> <li>▪ As snakes are a natural part of the Australian environment, they may be present in bushland, grassed areas, gardens and warm outdoor surfaces. While snakes are typically shy and avoid humans, their presence can present significant risk.</li> <li>▪ Australia has effective anti-venom available for all medically significant venomous snake species, and medical professionals can accurately determine the appropriate anti-venom through clinical symptoms and diagnostic testing of the bite site or blood.</li> <li>▪ In Australia, <b>snakes are protected wildlife</b>, therefore it is an offence to kill them. The exact legislation depends on the state or territory as per <b>appendix 1</b> end of policy.</li> </ul> <p>Therefore, as best practice we will:</p>

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- Implement prevention and environmental management strategies.
- Educate employees and children on safe behaviours.
- Enforce safe work practices such as appropriate clothing and footwear.
- Ensure emergency response procedures are understood, accessible and practiced.

**In the Event of a Snake sighting**

- If a snake is sighted, the safest response is to remain calm and slowly move away, allowing the snake an opportunity to retreat.
- When walking in bushland or long grass, appropriate personal protective equipment such as enclosed footwear and long pants should always be worn, and educators must ensure that they are carrying a pressure bandage in first aid kit.
- Do not attempt to catch or kill the snake, as this increases the risk of further bites and is unnecessary for treatment.
- Isolate the area such as closing doors if snake has entered a room.
- Vacate the area removing all children and employees from area to a safer space.
- Monitor snake and if snake does not leave area call Wires to collect the snake.

**Do NOT:**

- Attempt to kill the snake (illegal and dangerous)
- Attempt to capture, corner or move it.
- Use brooms, rakes or objects to “shoo” it away.
- Be aware that snake activity typically increases in spring, when males are more mobile during the breeding season.

**In the event of a snake bite,**

- It is critical to stay as calm and still as possible.
- Ensure the area is safe — do NOT attempt to capture or kill the snake.
- Call 000 immediately for an ambulance.
- Keep the child/adult still, calm and reassured. Ensure that they stay as still as possible.
- Apply a firm pressure bandage over the bite site by applying the Pressure Immobilisation Technique- bandage the entire limb from extremities upward.
- Splint the limb, if possible, to prevent movement.

**Do NOT:**

- Remove any clothing.
- Wash the bite site.
- Cut or suck the bite site.
- Apply a tourniquet.
- Be prepared to commence CPR if required.
- Record the incident when child/employee has been attended to and notify the Approved Provider/Nominated Supervisor.
- Follow regulatory reporting process to Acecqa for serious Incident.

**Pressure Immobilisation Technique (PIT)**

- The Pressure Immobilisation Technique (PIT) is the recommended first-aid method for treating venomous snake bites in Australia. The goal is to slow the movement of venom through the body by keeping the limb firmly bandaged and completely still.

**Method**

- Apply a firm bandage over the bite – not so tight that it cuts off blood flow, but tight like a sprained ankle bandage.
- Bandage the whole arm or leg, starting at the fingers or toes and wrapping all the way up the limb.
- Keep the limb still by using a splint like a piece of wood or a rolled-up magazine and bandaging it in place.
- Do not let the person walk or move the limb at all.
- Call 000 immediately for an ambulance.

Each member of the team plays an important role in the implementation of each policies guidelines, and they are outlined as below but not limited to the following:

**The Approved Provider**

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- Will ensure that obligations under the Education and Care Services National Law and National Regulations are met.
- Will ensure they take reasonable steps to ensure that the nominated supervisor, educators, staff, and volunteers follow the policy and procedures.
- Will ensure they provide the nominated supervisor, educators, staff and volunteers the documentation to perform their role, follow policy, procedure, and document according to regulatory and service requirements.
- Will ensure that adequate induction process is provided to all staff to ensure they have time to read and understand policies and procedures and seek further information if unsure.
- Will ensure that the nominated supervisor and staff are equipped with ongoing professional development and training they require to comply with this policy.
- Will encourage feedback from stakeholders regarding the policy’s effectiveness, particularly in relation to identifying and responding to child safety concerns.
- Will ensure the policy is kept up to date with current legislation, research, and best practice.

**The Nominated Supervisor**

- Will ensure that they conduct and document a snake-related risk assessment for the service.
- Will ensure they maintain an up-to-date emergency plan that includes snake encounters and snake bite first aid.
- Will ensure they display the emergency snake bite action plan in a prominent relevant position such as outdoor playground areas- if relevant.
- Will ensure at least one staff member with an approved First Aid qualification is on duty at all times.
- Will ensure that First Aid Kits include compression bandages suitable for snake bite first aid such as pressure immobilisation technique.
- Will ensure maintenance maintains lawns, gardens and playground areas to minimise potential snake habitats.
- Will ensure that there is no sored debris, long grass, compost heaps, metal sheets and timber piles in any outdoor areas or in any sheds.
- Will ensure that employees secure and maintain any animal enclosures to prevent attracting rodents, do not leave food and water bowls laying around.
- Will ensure that employees have a snake identification chart for the local area.
- Will ensure that the Wires emergency number **1300 094 737** is displayed on the **emergency phone record** in all rooms and in outdoor areas.
- Will ensure local snake catchers are added to **emergency phone record** and displayed in all the same areas.
- Will ensure parents/ guardians are informed of any snake bite incident as soon as is practical.
- Will ensure that they report any snake-bite incident requiring emergency services as a serious incident to ACECQA within 24 hours and inform approved provider.
- Will ensure all staff wear enclosed footwear at all times.
- Will ensure daily safety inspections of indoor and outdoor environments are completed prior to children entering the area.
- Will adhere to and implement the obligations under the Education and Care Services National Law and National Regulations.
- Will ensure they take reasonable steps to ensure that the educators, staff, and volunteers follow the policy and procedures.
- Will ensure they provide the educators, staff and volunteers the documentation to perform their role, follow policy and procedure and ensure they are checking the documentation according to regulatory and service requirements.
- Will ensure that a rigorous recruitment process is completed, and a thorough induction process is provided to all staff to ensure they have time to read and understand policies and procedures and seek further information if unsure.
- Will ensure that the staff are supported with ongoing professional development and training they require to comply with this policy.
- Will encourage feedback from stakeholders and staff regarding the policy’s effectiveness, particularly in relation to identifying and responding to child safety concerns.
- Will ensure the policy is kept up to date with current legislation, research, and best practice.

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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will conduct regular staff meetings to address policy compliance with legislation, policy implementation, changes to policy and or collect feedback for annual review of policy.</li> </ul> <p><b>Educators</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will complete daily indoor and outdoor safety checks, reporting any hazards immediately to the nominated supervisor.</li> <li>Will ensure that they know and follow emergency snake procedures.</li> <li>Must never approach, touch or attempt to catch a snake.</li> <li>Ensure they always wear protective clothing and enclosed footwear.</li> <li>Will notify the Nominated Supervisor immediately if a snake is sighted.</li> <li>Ensure that they guide children and teach them the following: teach children safe practices such as:             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Never put hands inside holes, logs or crevices.</li> <li>Move away quietly if you see a snake.</li> <li>Report a snake sighting to an educator immediately.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Will adhere to and implement the obligations under the Education and Care Services National Law and National Regulations.</li> <li>Will ensure they take reasonable steps to follow the service policy and procedures and seek advice or further support if unsure.</li> <li>Will ensure they complete and document any related records regarding the implementation of this policy and practice requirements of the service.</li> <li>Will attend any ongoing professional development, staff meetings and training they require to comply with this policy and practice requirements of the service.</li> <li>Will provide feedback to the nominated supervisor or approved provider regarding the policy's effectiveness, particularly in relation to identifying and responding to child safety concerns.</li> <li>Will provide feedback regarding policy review when required.</li> </ul> <p><b>Families</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will be expected to be familiar with this policy and adhere to the procedures relating to the policy.</li> <li>Will support the service policy by providing safe clothing and footwear requirements.</li> <li>Will reinforce snake safety messages with their children that reflect the service practices.</li> </ul>
<b>REGULATION IMPLEMENTATION</b>	The following procedures outline and support all stakeholders to understand and implement the regulatory guidelines of this policy.
<b>In regard to regulation 12 – meaning of serious injury</b>	<p>A serious incident is defined under Section 5(1) of the Education and Care Services National Law and Regulation 12 of the National Regulations. Any of the following events are classes as a serious event and therefore require reporting to Acecqa on the NQAITS portal.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Death of a Child-any instance where a child dies or after an incident that occurred while the child was being educated and cared for by the service.</li> <li>Serious Injury or Trauma-Any incident that results in serious injury or trauma to a child while in the care of the service that, a reasonable person would consider requires urgent medical attention from a registered medical practitioner, or requires, or should reasonably have required, the child to attend a hospital. -Example: broken limb.</li> <li>Serious Illness- Any incident involving a serious illness while the child is being educated and cared for by the service that requires, or should reasonably have required, the child to attend a hospital- Examples: severe asthma attack, seizure, anaphylaxis.</li> <li>Emergency Requiring Attendance of Emergency Services- Any situation that results in emergency services attending the service. This includes ambulance, police, or fire brigade.</li> <li>Missing, Removed, or Locked-In/Out child-Any circumstance where a child in the care of the service cannot be located or is temporarily unaccounted for, or appears to have been removed from the premises in a way that breaches the National Regulations, or is mistakenly locked in or locked out of the service premises or part of the premise.</li> <li>Any snake bite requiring ambulance attendance or urgent medical attention is considered a <i>serious incident</i> under Regulation 12 and must be reported to the Regulatory Authority via NQAITS within 24 hours.</li> </ul>
<b>In regard to regulation 85- Incident, injury, trauma and illness</b>	<p><b>Approved Provider will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure they provide all staff and nominated supervisor with clear guidelines for procedures to follow in the case of a child becoming ill, injured or suffers a trauma.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>policies and procedures and 86- Notification to parents of incident, injury, trauma and illness and 87- Incident, injury, trauma and illness record</b></p>	<p><b>Nominated Supervisor will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that all staff are aware of the procedures for these events.</li> <li>Ensure that as the nominated supervisor they hold a current and up to date with First Aid CPR, Asthma and Anaphylaxis qualification.</li> <li>Ensure roster is organised to ensure an educator with full First Aid qualifications including Anaphylaxis, Asthma and CPR is present in the service from open until close.</li> <li>Ensure they keep a current <b>staff schedule record</b> of educator qualifications to ensure qualifications are kept current and do not expire.</li> </ul> <p><b>Approved Provider will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that the nominated supervisor is aware of this regulation and have a process in place that ensures that the nominated supervisor or responsible person alerts the approved provider immediately regarding any serious incident that occurs at the service.</li> <li>Advise parents within 24 hours of the incident.</li> <li>Ensure they provide all staff and educators with an appropriate <b>Incident, injury trauma and illness record</b>.</li> <li>Ensure the record is stored confidentially and the record is kept until the child reaches the age of 25.</li> <li>Ensure educators fill in records with accurate detail.</li> <li>Ensure families are notified of the record at the end of each day or if more serious as soon as is practicable.</li> </ul> <p><b>The record must include the following:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Name and age of the child.</li> <li>Time and date of the event.</li> <li>Circumstances leading to the event.</li> <li>Details of follow up actions.</li> <li>Any medication administered (depending on the event).</li> <li>Any first aid administered.</li> <li>Any witnesses to the event.</li> <li>Name of person contacted.</li> <li>Record of time and date of notifications or attempted notifications.</li> <li>Name and signature of person completing the record</li> </ul> <p><b>Nominated Supervisor will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure families are made aware of any incident, injury, trauma, or illness that has occurred at the service as soon as possible but no longer than 24 hours.</li> <li>Always contact a parent/guardian if a child sustains any injury above the shoulders to the head as soon as practicable after incident has occurred in relation to any incident once the child has been attended to. It is advisable that parent/guardian picks up child from service and has them checked out by a medical practitioner.</li> <li>Whilst waiting for parent/guardian to arrive Do not allow child to fall asleep.</li> <li>Ensure that staff have completed an <b>incident Injury trauma and illness record</b> and it is filled in accurately.</li> <li>Collect parents' signature, store, and archive accordingly.</li> </ul>
<p><b>In regard to regulation 89- First aid kits.</b></p>	<p><b>Approved Provider will</b></p> <p>Ensure that processes are in place for the following:</p> <p>First Aid Kits will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Be available and be plentiful in number for the whole service and be easily accessible.</li> <li>Be in permanent positions and signed accordingly with a distinctive first aid sign.</li> <li>Be checked on a monthly basis and replenished accordingly.</li> <li>Be portable for excursions.</li> <li>Be available on all transport for children e.g., Bus.</li> <li>Be taken on excursions with a designated first aid qualified educator.</li> <li>Must not contain any medication not on first aid checklist or any extra additions not on checklist.</li> </ul>
<p><b>In regard to regulations 100- Risk assessment must be</b></p>	<p><b>Approved Provider and Nominated Supervisor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Will ensure that a <b>risk assessment record</b> is completed prior to any excursion taking place from the service.</li> </ul>

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<p><b>conducted before excursion</b>  <b>101- Conduct of risk assessment for excursion</b>  <b>102- Authorisation for excursion</b></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>This <b>risk assessment record</b> will be completed according to the outlines in this policy – the plan for excursion, documentation completion, items for excursion and implementation of excursion.</li> <li>All considerations to risk health and safety of the child will be considered when completing the <b>risk assessment record</b> as per risk assessment outlines.</li> <li>Will ensure that no child can be taken on an excursion if the parent/guardian has not completed an <b>excursion authorisation record</b>.</li> </ul>
<p><b>In regard to regulation 136- First aid qualifications</b></p>	<p><b>Approved Provider will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure at least one educator or staff member holds current approved first aid qualifications and is in attendance at all times that children are being educated and cared for by the service, including on excursions and during periods of transportation.</li> </ul> <p><b>Nominated Supervisor will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Maintain a staff schedule record and roster to ensure compliance at all times.</li> <li>Check that all first aid qualifications meet regulatory requirements according to ACECQA website.</li> </ul>
<p><b>In regard to regulation 170- Policies and procedures to be followed.</b></p>	<p><b>Approved Provider will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that all staff and volunteers are made aware of Regulatory policies and procedures by ensuring that this forms a part of the induction process.</li> <li>Ensure probationary reviews will be conducted once new staff are appointed at the 3- month and 6-month mark to ensure that they are following policy and procedure and to review and revise regulatory policies.</li> <li>Ensure staff meetings will be conducted on a regular basis to allow for review of policy and procedure and further training and revision of procedural practices in relation to policy and procedure.</li> <li>Ensure annual review and revision of policies and procedures will be conducted, and all educators will be given the opportunity for input.</li> </ul>
<p><b>In regard to Regulation 171- Policies and procedures to be kept available.</b></p>	<p><b>Approved Provider will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure that policies and procedures are available to all staff and the location and availability will form a part of the induction process.</li> <li>Ensure policies will be available on request for all staff members to have access when required.</li> <li>Ensure policies will be available when required for staff members to download copies and/or print out if required in order to complete assignments or to form part of their research and/ or update their knowledge.</li> <li>Ensure policies will be available for all stakeholders when requested and when updating.</li> </ul>
<p><b>In regard to Regulation 172- Notification of change to policies or procedures</b></p>	<p><b>Approved Provider will</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ensure staff meetings will be conducted on a regular basis to allow for review of policy and procedure, provide further training and allow for input if required in relation to policy and procedure.</li> <li>Ensure stakeholders will be invited to provide feedback for policies and procedures at any time, not just on annual review but will also be invited to add feedback at review time or after an event that may require change to policy or procedure.</li> <li>Ensure policies and procedures will be emailed or put on display in the foyer for stakeholders to have the ability to provide feedback.</li> <li>Ensure feedback will be considered from stakeholders and educators and may result in a change in policy.</li> <li>Ensure policy and procedure may be changed at any time if there has been an incident in the service that has required a change to be implemented for the safety and health of children and or educators.</li> <li>Ensure in the event of a change to a policy after feedback or a situation that occurs, we will provide 14 days’ notice to all stakeholders before the change takes effect.</li> </ul>
<p><b>LAW IMPLEMENTATION</b></p>	<p>The following laws and procedures outline and support all stakeholders to understand and implement the regulatory guidelines of this policy.</p>
<p><b>In regard to Section 167- Offence relating to protection of</b></p>	<p><b>Approved Provider and Nominated Supervisor</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><b>Approved Provider</b> must ensure that every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children being educated and cared for by the service from harm and from any hazard likely to cause injury. They must have the service must have policies and procedures in place to support the</li> </ul>

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children from harm and hazards.	<p>protection of children from harm and hazards, including health and safety matters. Penalty: \$11 400, in the case of an individual, \$57 400, in any other case.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>Nominated supervisor</b> must ensure that every reasonable precaution is taken to protect children being educated and cared for by the service from harm and from any hazard likely to cause injury. Penalty: \$11 400.</li> </ul> <p>All methods of precaution must be implemented in the form of safety checks and recorded and monitored by approved provider or nominated supervisor. Such as the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Daily safety checks of the environment and equipment and regular checking that the checks are being completed.</li> <li>▪ Regular walk throughs from approved provider or nominated supervisor to check on compliance and employee behaviours.</li> <li>▪ Secure storage of hazardous products including chemicals.</li> <li>▪ Thorough maintenance process and implementation of repairs to equipment.</li> <li>▪ Risk assessments for all areas of the service including for excursions and regular transportation.</li> <li>▪ Purchasing products that meets Australian Standards - for example, cots and playground equipment and softfall.</li> <li>▪ Chemical data sheets and correct training of all employees in chemical usage, safety plugs in electrical outlets and careful placement of electrical equipment.</li> <li>▪ Procedures for releasing children only into the care of authorised persons and ensuring that all employees are aware of the process.</li> <li>▪ The implementation of ongoing safety should be conducted regularly through the review of risk assessments to identify potential hazards and strategies to protect children. The National Law does not require services to eliminate all risk and challenge from children’s play or environments.</li> </ul>
CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT	<p>We are dedicated to the ongoing improvement of our practices and procedures through the following actions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ Conducting regular reviews and updates of this policy with all stakeholders.</li> <li>▪ Actively seeking feedback from children, families, and staff members.</li> <li>▪ Providing targeted skill development and training for staff when areas for improvement are identified or when gaps in policy and procedure implementation are observed.</li> </ul>
IN THE EVENT of a BREACH of POLICY and/or PROCEDURE	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ All employees are required to comply with this policy and all associated procedures.</li> <li>▪ Any alleged breach of a policy or procedure will be documented and further investigated by management.</li> <li>▪ If an employee is deemed to be breaching policy and or procedure, disciplinary action will be taken, if the breach is deemed to be serious this could result in immediate termination.</li> <li>▪ Breaches involving child safety or harm to a child will result in immediate suspension whilst management undergo an investigation. This could also result in immediate termination.</li> <li>▪ All breaches and investigations will be documented and may be reported to the Regulatory Authority and/ or law enforcement.</li> </ul>
KEY TERMS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>▪ <b>ACECQA-</b> Australian Children’s Education and Care Quality Authority. The independent national authority that works with all regulatory authorities to administer the National Quality Framework, including the provision of guidance, resources, and services to support the sector to improve outcomes for children.</li> <li>▪ <b>Stakeholder</b> - a person or group of people who have an interest in a business, a person such as an employee or customer. They have a sense of responsibility toward it and an interest in its success.</li> </ul>

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**WE GRATEFULLY ACKNOWLEDGE THE FOLLOWING SOURCES**

- Australian Children’s Education & Care Quality Authority. ACECQA
- Code of Ethics
- Education and Care Services National Regulations.
- Education and Care Services National Law Act 2010.
- Guide to the Education and Care Services National Law and the Education and Care Services National Regulations.
- Guide to the National Quality Framework.
- National Quality Standard.
- Staying Healthy Childcare 6<sup>th</sup> edition
- United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
- Australian Government: Department of Health. (2024). Snake bites – Symptoms, first aid and emergency response. HealthDirect. <https://www.healthdirect.gov.au/snake-bites>
- Australian Venom Research Unit. (2024). Snake bite management guidelines. University of Melbourne. <https://biomedical-sciences.unimelb.edu.au/departments/pharmacology/engage/avru>
- Safe Work Australia. (2024). Managing the work environment and facilities: Code of practice. <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au>
- Safe Work Australia. (2023). Guide for managing risks in early childhood education and care. <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au>
- St John Ambulance Australia. (2020). Snake bite: First aid fact sheet. St John Ambulance Australia. <https://stjohn.org.au>
- WIRES Wildlife Rescue. (2024). Snake handling and rescue services. <https://www.wires.org.au>
- New South Wales Government. (2016). Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (NSW).
- Queensland Government. (1992). Nature Conservation Act 1992 (QLD).
- Victorian Government. (1975). Wildlife Act 1975 (VIC).
- South Australian Government. (1972). National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (SA).
- Western Australian Government. (2016). Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (WA).
- Tasmanian Government. (2002). Nature Conservation Act 2002 (TAS).
- Northern Territory Government. (1976). Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976 (NT).
- Australian Capital Territory Government. (2014). Nature Conservation Act 2014 (ACT).

**Appendix 1**

**Acts Under Which Snakes Are Protected in Australia (By State/Territory)**

All native snakes in Australia are legally protected wildlife. It is an offence to harm, kill, capture, or interfere with any native snake without lawful authority. Each state/territory has its own legislation.

- **Queensland (QLD)**  
Nature Conservation Act 1992  
All native snakes are protected, and it is an offence to harm, kill, or capture them without authorisation.
- **New South Wales (NSW)**  
Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016  
Native reptiles, including snakes, are protected. Handling or killing them is illegal without a licence.
- **Victoria (VIC)**  
Wildlife Act 1975  
All Australian native snakes are protected wildlife, and harming or taking them without a permit is prohibited.
- **South Australia (SA)**  
National Parks and Wildlife Act 1972 (SA)  
Snakes are protected species.  
Penalties apply for harming or disturbing wildlife.
- **Western Australia (WA)**  
Biodiversity Conservation Act 2016 (WA)  
Protects native fauna, including all snake species.  
Only licensed fauna handlers may relocate a snake.
- **Tasmania (TAS)**  
Nature Conservation Act 2002 (Tas)  
Protects Tasmanian native reptiles, including all snake species (3 types in Tasmania).

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<b>Service Support Within Reach</b>	Warning -uncontrolled when printed. This document is current at the time of printing and may be subject to change without notice				

- **Northern Territory (NT)**  
Territory Parks and Wildlife Conservation Act 1976 (NT)  
All native reptiles are protected wildlife; permits required for handling/relocation.
- **Australian Capital Territory (ACT)**  
Nature Conservation Act 2014 (ACT)  
Protects native fauna, including all native snake species.

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