**Aquatic Policy for (Your Business Name)**

* As per licensing requirements, written parental permission and a written description of a child’s swimming ability is required before child(ren) participate in any aquatic activity.
* There is/is not swimming/wading pool at my/our child care.
* The following types of water activities are provided at my/our child care program:

*List types provided – swimming, wading, field trips to pools, etc.*

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* All swimming pools (other than wading) are approved yearly by the local public health unit.
* Steps/ladders are removed from pool/hot tubs when not in use.
* Children are not allowed to use hot tubs.
* Wading pools are emptied, cleaned, and disinfected daily. Only potable water is used to fill the wading pool. Wading pools are emptied when not in use.
* Lifeguards are not considered to be teachers/caregivers. Lifeguards will not be counted in the child:staff ratio at a public pool.

* Program will maintain child-to-staff ratios as follows (list age group and ratio):

*Classroom child-to-staff ratios can be used for swimming/water play. However, for best practice it is recommended to follow the child-to-staff ratios given by Caring for Our Children National Health and Safety Performance Standards for Child Care and Early Education\*.*

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| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **AGE GROUP** | **CHILD-TO-STAFF SUPERVISION RATIO** *(Best practice ratios listed in example)* |  |  |
| Infant/Toddler | \*1 to 1 Ratio along with having one hand on the child at all times during the activity |  |  |
| Preschool | \*4 to 1 Ratio |  |  |
| School-Age | \*6 to 1 Ratio |  |  |

* Child-to-staff ratios will be maintained at all times.
* I/staff will not be involved in any activity other than directly supervising the children during water activities.
* Children will be kept in sight at all times during water activities.
* I/staff am/are certified in pediatric first aid and CPR and will be present at all times during water activities.
* A phone and a first aid kit will be kept readily accessible at all times.
* Children in diapers are required to wear diapers designed for swimming/water activities.
* Children with diarrhea or open sores will not be allowed to participate in water activities.

*Form provided by Child Care Aware® of North Dakota Health Consultants.*

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