

Policy to manage the risks associated with Children on-site

Definition(s): Children in this context means any individual under 18 years old. On-site means on any Darwin owned or operated building or property, including grounds and gardens. Children of 14 or above may be granted more freedom as fits their age, noting that the College employs staff as young as 16 years old, but they should still be supervised by an adult at all times

Key risks:

1. Accident and or injury from slips, cuts or falls in a building
2. Choking or allergic reaction to food
3. Fall into the river from bank or from bridge or whilst using College punts
4. Disrupt College business or members
5. Damage to College or members' property
6. Safeguarding incident
7. bees / bee sting including allergic reaction
8. Access to alcohol / licensing requirements

Risk level before control measures Likelihood: **HIGH** Impact: **HIGH**

Control Measures:

- > Children never to be left unsupervised and remain the responsibility of the responsible adult at all times
- > Children should not enter any shared student accommodation under any circumstances. Entry to flats at the invitation of the resident tenant is acceptable.
- > Children are not permitted in the study centre.
- > Children are not permitted in the gym.
- > Children should only be always allowed access to the bridge and the islands with direct and immediate supervision by parents (within touching distance). Where this is not adhered to, the responsible adult and children will be asked to leave the site. The river edge has handrails installed but these do not guard against the risk of children falling.
- > It is expected that the responsible adult of any child on-site be familiar with our safeguarding and H&S provisions.
- > Visits to site by groups of children (eg. local school children) are only allowed with prior written approval from the Bursary for each specific visit. Safeguarding and risk management will be closely scrutinised before any permission is granted.
- > Ensure that children are only served food from the servery and café in the presence of the responsible adult to ensure allergies are correctly identified.
- > Clear warning signage with pictograms on the approach to the beehives
- > The College and the DCSA regularly organise events targeted at our members with young families including Family Formals, birdwatching, gardening and other social events. The organisers are responsible for ensuring that those responsible adults attending are fully briefed on the College's expectations and the risks that exist for children on the site (above).
- > The punt club clearly require that all punters and kayakers wear a life vest at all times. Children should only be allowed in boats when the responsible adult is present.

Risk level after control measures Likelihood: **VERY LOW** Impact: **HIGH**

Guidance for College Staff

- > Children must not be allowed to disrupt the normal operation of the work area or other employees / students
- > The Porters or Bursars may at their discretion ask any child and the responsible adult to be removed from site if disruption / risk increased
- > Children without direct supervision should be re-united with the responsible adult, who should be informed of our policy.

Note on Safeguarding:

Our statutory Safeguarding responsibility for Adults at Risk requires us to 'establish a safe environment in which adults at risk can learn and develop'. That is, it applies to a sub-set of our students who we expect to be living on-site or at least spending a lot of time in College. We do not have under-18 registered students and so our safeguarding policy does not cover children, the assumption being that they will always be accompanied.