



PHOTOGRAPHY AND WATER SAFETY PROGRAMS

The issue of photography during Education Water Safety lessons is an area that requires policy and procedural clarification.

The following information is designed to aid schools and the EDU Instructor in Charge in developing a clear position on photography of students during swimming lessons.

Issues around photography

- While it is understood that parents and schools may wish to have a photographic record of their child's/student participation there are safety issues related to who is taking the photos, for what purpose and how to protect the identify of other students who may not wish to have their photo taken or where schools are required to protect their identify.
- Schools have a responsibility to ensure the safety of all their students and it is reasonable for the school community to develop a position on the taking of photos (still and video) at off-site swimming & aquatic activities.

Centre Management Policy

- The EDU Instructor in Charge should determine the Centre Management's policy on photography in their centre and inform schools of this policy which takes precedence. This becomes the starting point for school policy in this area.

School Considerations

- In general it is appropriate to discourage photography by parents given the difficulty in ensuring other children are not identifiable in their photos and who has a legitimate reason for taking photographs, especially where the pool is open to the general public at the same time.
- Where the school wishes to permit photography it will need to come to agreement with the centre management.
- Schools should consider identifying a person (teacher or parent) to take photographs for school purposes where they could also be made available to parents if so desired.

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- Anyone taking photos should have prior approval and be easily identified as having approval (eg through the wearing of a badge, sash or other kind of identification)
- Photographs taken by parents should not include other students, especially where they can be identified.
- Photographs should not include instructors without their express permission.
- The photographer should show the photos they have taken to any instructor or teacher upon request.

Use of Mobile Phones & devices with video capacity

- Schools also need to consider video and the prevalence of mobile phones that have photo taking capabilities and how this is managed.

School Policy & Procedures

- Schools should provide both the Centre management and the EDU Instructor in Charge a copy of their photography policy and procedures in advance of their attendance for comment and support or further negotiation where required.
- Once agreement has been reached the policy should be communicated to all key stakeholders (centre management, program staff, school staff and parents) to assist with the appropriate implementation and monitoring.

Education Water Safety Program Photography

- Where the EDU Instructor in Charge wishes to take photographs for their program, approval needs to be sought from schools in advance explaining the reason and purpose of the photography and the photos made available to schools for their final approval.
- Unless otherwise agreed photos should not enable the students involved to be identified.
- Unless otherwise agreed photos should not enable the instructor(s) involved to be identified.
- Schools have the authority to decline requests for the centre to take photographs of their students.