

Risk assessment for Transporting children (other than as part of an excursion)

Children are sometimes transported by, or on transport arranged by, children's education and care services. For example, this might include transport to and from the service premises or other location and a child's home. Service providers, nominated supervisors and educators need to take specific steps to ensure the health, safety and wellbeing of children.

Under the Education and Care Services National Regulations (r 102B), a transport risk assessment must be conducted before an education and care service transports a child / children (*other than as part of an excursion**). Regulation 102E and 102F also include legislative requirements that require a staff member or nominated supervisor of the service to be present when a child is embarking or disembarking a vehicle. This movement between the vehicle must be recorded to ensure that every child is accounted for. This may form part of your risk assessment and management process for transporting children.

** Regulation 101 includes the minimum risk assessment considerations for excursions by approved providers, nominated supervisors and family day care educators. This includes specific considerations when an excursion involves transporting children.*

*** Regular transportation is transport by the service or arranged by the service (other than as part of an excursion) of a child being educated and cared for by the service, where the circumstances relevant to a risk assessment are substantially the same each time the child is transported. [An example of a change in circumstances that are substantially different might be when the means of transport or the transportation route or destination(s) have altered or the provider of the transportation service has changed.]*

Risk assessment template – Transporting children (other than as part of an excursion)

Service name	ARMIDALE FAMILY DAY CARE:
Activity E.g. collecting children from school or home or taking children to school	
Start date:	End Date:
Pick-up location and destination(s) Include each location travelled to or from E.g. each child's home address or each school	
Estimated time of travel between the different locations E.g. Departing the service, arriving at children's homes or schools and arrival at the service	
Proposed route	

You can include an image of the route sourced online ¹	
Means of transport E.g. public bus, private bus, coach, private car, taxi, tram, walking	
Requirements for seatbelts or safety restraints in your state or territory have been met	Yes/ No Comment:
Number and full names of each adult involved in the transportation of children	
The number of educators / responsible adults, appropriate to provide <i>supervision</i> and whether any adults with specialised skills are required E.g. for children's individual needs	
The number of children being transported	

¹ Note: Consider matters such as privacy and family violence situations, and decide how much detail should be recorded. It is likely not appropriate nor necessary to include street addresses for children's homes in the risk assessment document, however street addresses for services and schools are more likely to be included. In some circumstances, a much more generic description of a pickup location within the risk assessment will be the only appropriate option, as opposed to a child's street address.

Any water hazards on proposed route travelled and at each stop? E.g. Bridge, causeway, risk of flooding, beach, lake, dam	Yes / No Comment:
Describe the process for entering and exiting the service premises and the pick-up location or destination (as required); (include how each child is accounted for)	
Describe the procedures for embarking and disembarking the vehicle; (include whether a staff member or nominated supervisor is present, and include how each child is accounted for in embarking and disembarking eg: by making a record of each child ensuring they are accounted for)	

Transport checklist – items to be readily available when transporting children	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> First aid kit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of adults involved in transportation
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> List of children involved 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact information for each adult
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Contact information for each child 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mobile phone / other means of communicating with the service & emergency services
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medication, health plans and risk assessments for individual children 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other items, please list

Use the table below to identify and assess risks to the safety, health or wellbeing of children being transported, and specify how these risks will be managed and minimised (regulation 102C(1)).

Risk assessment					
Activity	Hazard identified	Risk assessment (use matrix)	Elimination/control measures	Who	When
Travelling in the car	Car accident or collision	Likelihood: Possible Consequence: Moderate Risk: Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Children harnessed correctly into seats. Safe driving and following the speed limit and road rules 	Children Educator.	When driving to and from excursion.

Embarking and disembarking the vehicle.	Child running onto road.	Likelihood: possible Consequence: Moderate Risk: Moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Park in driveways, if possible, • Educator supervision holding hands where practical. • Discuss road safety with children. Hi Vis vests to be worn. 	Children	Entering and exiting the vehicle.
During Excursion	Medical Emergency	Likelihood: possible Consequence: Moderate Risk: moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aid Kit available. • Is there a known medical condition? • Mobile phone available with family contact details stored in phone. 	Educator and Children	During the duration of Excursion
During Excursion	Child becoming Missing or lost	Likelihood: unlikely Consequence: moderate Risk: moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Supervision • regular head counts. • Wearing service hi/vis vests which have contact details on them. 	Children	During the duration of Excursion

Animals, Insects and Wildlife	Bite, stings and scaring the children	Likelihood: possible Consequence: Moderate Risk: moderate	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aid Kit available, • Supervision watching where we walk • Keeping windows up in car to avoid insects. • First aid competed three yearly • CPR -Completed annually 	Educator and Children	During excursion.
Snake Bie	Sanke Bite	Likelihood: possible Consequence: significant Risk: high	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Aid Kit available, • Supervision watching where we walk • Keeping windows up in car to avoid insects. • First aid competed three yearly • CPR -Completed annually 	Educator and Children	During excursion.

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Risk Matrix

Consequences	Likelihood					
		Rare	Unlikely	Possible	Likely	Almost Certain
	Major	Moderate	High	High	Critical	Critical
	Significant	Moderate	Moderate	High	High	Critical
	Moderate	Low	Moderate	Moderate	High	High
	Minor	Very low	Low	Moderate	Moderate	Moderate
	Insignificant	Very low	Very low	Low	Moderate	Moderate

Plan and Review		
Plan prepared by:	Full name: Signature: Role/Position:	Date:
Prepared in consultation with:	Full name: Signature: Role/position:	
Communicated to all relevant staff:	Yes / No Comment if needed:	
Vehicle safety information reviewed and attached	Yes / No Comment if needed:	
Risk assessment to be evaluated and reviewed on: A risk assessment must be undertaken each time the service transports, or arranges, the transport of children (other than as part of an excursion). If the transport is for ' <i>regular transportation</i> '*, a risk assessment must be undertaken <i>at least</i> annually. In accordance with National Regulations 102E and 102F, a record that accounts for each child as they embark		

and disembark from transportation must be made each time a child moves between a vehicle.	
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