

# Pinellas County License Board for Children's Centers & Family Day Care Homes

Our mission is to protect and promote the health, safety, and mental development of children cared for in children's centers and family child care homes in Pinellas County



**Faith Bornoff, M.Ed.**  
**Executive Director**

Dear Parent or Legal Guardian:

You have chosen to have your child cared for in a licensed Family Child Care Home where there is a swimming pool or spa. In order to become licensed, your caregiver had to meet the following safety regulations that are in effect any time that children are in care:

- ◆ Minimum 4' barrier surrounding the pool. A pool alarm is required when an exterior wall of the home has ingress and egress and the wall serves as one side of the required barrier.
- ◆ When required, the pool alarm must be operable at all times while children are in care.
- ◆ All doors and/or gates leading to the pool must be locked with locks that are not accessible to children.
- ◆ Spas must have a locked cover or be within a 4' barrier.
- ◆ The swimming pool or spa is off-limits to all children, including child care children, and the caregiver when child care children are present.
- ◆ If other household members or guests (over the age of 18) are in the pool enclosure during child care hours, all access to the pool must be locked.
- ◆ The pool shall be maintained so that the bottom of the pool is clearly visible.
- ◆ If the pool is deeper than 4', a "shepherd's crook" is required. The shepherd's crook must be prominently and appropriately mounted at pool side for ready accessibility.
- ◆ Each pool more than six feet in width, length or diameter must be provided with a ring buoy and rope, a rescue tube, or a throwing line.
- ◆ The provider and all substitutes are required to complete the Child Care Water Safety Course or a current equivalent course for a home with a swimming pool. (This course not required if the home has a spa only.)

These regulations have been adopted to protect children. The Pinellas County License Board recommends that all Family Child Care Home providers discuss this information with parents/guardians.

My caregiver has shown me the safety features with regards to the pool/spa in her/his home that will help protect my child.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_