



Swimming Policy

(National Rescue Award for Swimming Teachers and Coaches: For the safe supervision of pool-base, programmed aquatic activities)

The aim of this policy is to ensure the safety of all children using the pool complex. A copy of the Pool Safety Operating Procedure (PSOP) is available in the pool office for any parents who require more information regarding the pool complex routine. Lifeguards and trained staff have read and understand the information in the PSOP and have signed to say they have read it. This is updated annually or when legislation has been changed.

Prior to any group using the pool, the daily leader will assess any risk involved. In addition to this, composition of the group and the availability of staff are included in the assessment of any proposed activity in the pool complex.

To ensure the safety of all children in our care, the Tree Top Club hires a Life Guard (TMS members Life Guard) or on occasions staff leading holds a National Rescue Award for Swimming Teachers Coaches Life Saving Certificate.

Children are not to enter the pool area before the lights have been turned on and staff are on poolside. On entering the pool area, children should have bare feet and shower prior to entering the water (to remove any creams and lotions). It is our policy to allow children to swim for a minimum of 30 minutes (this can be extended to 90 minutes.)

Parents are required to give permission for their child to swim on the Registration Form; we ask for permission to swim in the deep end, however, the Tree Top Club and Lifeguard will carry out an independent swimming test to determine the child's swimming ability.

5-7 Years Old

- A maximum of 8 children in a group, with a minimum of 2 staff (can be 1:12.). The second member of staff may be required to be in the pool;
- Children are not permitted to swim beyond the red/black line. This is clearly visible with the additional use of a rope to divide the pool;
- Water wings and goggles must be provided by parents;
- We have access to "woggles";
- Children will be expected and encouraged to shower, dry and dress themselves.

Over 8 Years

- A minimum of 2 staff will always be on duty;
- The minimum ratio of staff to children will be 1:6, the maximum being 1:12 (can be 1:20 for a Life Guard);
- A swimming test will be carried out (regardless to whether permission has been granted) with all new children to ensure they are capable swimmers (no water aids are used in the deep end to assist swimming)