

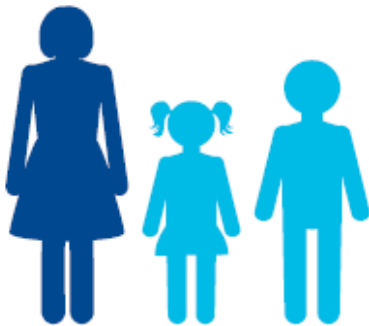
Swimming Pool Admissions Policy

Dear Pool User,

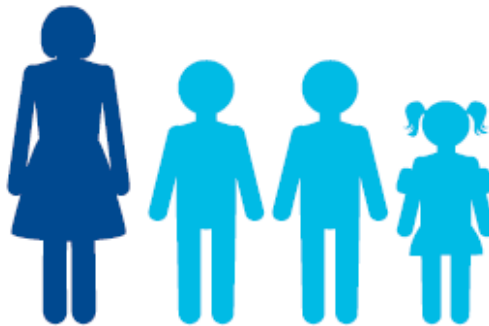
The following guideline has been updated to reflect a change in the swimming pool admissions policy here at The Hawthorns School Sports Centre, as well as the recommend practices of CIMSPA (The Chartered Institute for the Management of Sports and Physical Activity).

The details contained within this policy must be strictly adhered to when using the swimming pool. This policy applies to our members' swimming (Centre Circle swimming) **ONLY**.

- A parent is defined as someone over the age of sixteen. The parent must be in the water with the children. They must maintain a constant watch over the children and be in close contact with those of the children who are weak or non-swimmers. Parents who are supervising children must themselves determine that they have required competencies to undertake the task.
- As a starting point, the ratio of parent supervision for all children under eight years of age should be **1:2**
- This ratio may be increased to 1:3 if one or more of the children are regarded as a competent swimmer. This will be decided by the Duty Lifeguard and /or Duty Manager. *A competency test will be carried out by asking the child in question to swim 20 meters (one length) of the pool, starting at the shallow end using a recognised stroke. The Duty Manager / Lifeguard's decision on this is final.



Supervising children
under 8 years of age
1:2



Could be increased if one
or two children are
regarded as competent
swimmers*

A full copy of the policy can be viewed at The Hawthorns School Sports Centre office as well as online under the 'policies' section which is located at the Sports Centre page at www.hawthorns.com

Definitions

Designated safe area.

For the purposes of this policy, the designated safe area is the area from the shallow end and moving up the pool to a distance of 7 meters. This is indicated by the signs 'No non swimmers beyond this point'. The signs are located at each side of the pool.

Parent's responsibility.

Parents have a specific responsibility for the safety of their own children. This cannot be abdicated to lifeguards who are responsible for the safety of all swimmers. The key functions of a lifeguard are outlined in the Health and Safety Executive's publication HSG 179 paragraph 143. Their primary role is to pre-empt dangerous situations from arising. The policy regarding the admissions policy for under 8's is an example of a management action that is in place to prevent accidents.

Parents should also be aware that children over the age of eight, particularly those who cannot swim or are weak swimmers, may also require supervision of a similar level. Those responsible for the children must therefore consider the swimming abilities of all children and the appropriate supervision required and heed the advice /instructions given by the Sports Centre staff.

Parents accompanying children to the swimming pool will be able to take under eight's into an 'opposite sex' changing room. It is reasonable to assume that a child deemed too young to swim unaccompanied is also too young to look after themselves in a changing room or to change unaccompanied.

A full copy of the policy can be viewed at The Hawthorns School Sports Centre office as well as online under the 'policies' section which is located at the Sports Centre page at www.hawthorns.com