

Hoylake Amateur Swimming Club

(Founded 1931)

Affiliated to the N.W.A.S.A., L&D.S., W.P.A., C.C.W.P & S.A., R.L.S.S

President: Mr E Curd

Secretary: Dr L Johnston



Chair: Mrs P Birch

Hon Treasurer: Mr C Armour

COLLECTION OF CHILDREN POLICY

Hoylake Amateur Swimming Club has a safeguarding policy for all swimmers covering (amongst other matters) the late collection of children and children going missing. Our policy is in accordance with Swim England and 'Wavepower' guidelines.

Everyone from coaches, parents and club officers are responsible for the safety and welfare of all swimmers whilst they attend training sessions.

- Any swimmer who leaves their session early through illness or injury (or is asked to leave the pool for behavioural reasons) will be asked to remain on poolside until their parent/carer arrives. This way we can ensure their wellbeing rather than them sitting unaccompanied in a changing cubicle or elsewhere.
- If a swimmer knows they will have to get out early for a particular reason in advance of the session, please could this be cleared with the coach beforehand, preferably by a parent/carer. If this has not been discussed and the parent/carer is not present, the swimmer (under 16 years old) will be asked to remain on poolside until the parent arrives. This is for their own safety.
- If parents/carers are not staying during training times, they should ensure they are contactable by phone at all times.

Parents/Carers are encouraged to put emergency contact details into a dry compartment of their child's swim bag, especially if they do not bring their mobile telephone to the pool.

Collection of swimmers

In order to help keep your children/swimmers safe, we would ask that the guidelines below are followed:

- Parents/Carers not staying to watch a session must arrive at least 5 minutes before the scheduled end of the session. This will ensure children who are quicker to get changed are not waiting for their parents' arrival.

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Permission for children to be left unattended after a session has ended: Parents/Carers with secondary aged children (11+) who are happy for them to be left unattended and/or make their own way home at the end of a session, must email the Club Secretary (hoylakesecretary@gmail.com) stating that they give permission for their child to be released unaccompanied. |
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- Please insist that your children wait inside or directly outside the leisure centre/pool building when being collected.

- **Children should not be walking to the car park / main road without permission. Children without prior permission must be advised to remain at the building until collected.**
- **If their parent/guardian has not arrived please remind your child that they should return to the pool area and inform the coach or helper to ensure that the member is supervised appropriately until a parent/guardian arrives.**

As always, the safety and wellbeing of every swimmer is the Club's priority. Please discuss the above with your swimmers.

Late collection of swimmers

We understand that, on occasion parents/carers may be delayed and unable to collect their child on time from training or after an event, hence we would like everyone to be aware of the protocol that as a club we must follow.

In the event that a child is not collected on time after a training session or event, the club (officers/coaches) will use the emergency numbers they have for the child to arrange for a nominated person to collect the child. If the nominated person is not available, the child will be asked if there is another family member who may be contacted. If, after 20 minutes, the child has still not been collected, and no one can be contacted, the club will consult the Children's Social Care or Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), or local police, for advice of the appropriate action to take.

If a parent/carer arrives to collect a child/swimmer and the coach/club officers are concerned at their ability to take appropriate care of the child (i.e. they are considered to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs to the level under which they are unfit to drive, and/or take care of their child) the club should gain advice from the Children's Social Care or Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH), or local police.

The club's coaches / teachers and officers will make all reasonable efforts to avoid:

1. Taking the child home or to another location;
2. Asking the child to wait in a vehicle or at the venue with them alone;
3. Sending the child home with another person without prior permission.

Parents/guardians, who persistently fail to collect a child on time or have not arrived after a reasonable period of time, and who have given no prior notice or informed the club that they will be delayed, may be failing in the care of their child. In line with Swim England guidance, the coach/club officers will have a duty of care to report this to the club Welfare officer for formal follow up.

If there is no change, the Welfare Officer will contact either Swim England Child Safeguarding Team, Children's Social Care or MASH Team for further advice.

Contact numbers:

Multi Agency Safeguarding Hub (MASH): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0151 606 2008 (Office Hours) • 0151 677 6557 (Out of hours Emergency Duty Team) 	Social Work Emergency Team (Wirral): <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0151 606 2008 (Mon to Fri 9am to 5pm) • 0151 677 6557 (Out of Hours Emergency Duty Team)
HASC Welfare Officer welfare@hoylakesc.co.uk	Hoylake Swimming Club: hoylakesc@gmail.com
Swim England National Child Safeguarding Team: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Joanne Garey, National Safeguarding Officer • Email: joanne.garey@swimming.org. • Tel: 01509 640 252. 	