



Code of Conduct for parents/guardians

As a parent/guardian of a club member we understand you have the right to:

- Be assured that your child is safeguarded during their time with us. The organisation will ensure child safeguarding guidelines are followed at all times.
- Know how to access our club policies, rules and procedures.
- Know who the Welfare Officer is and how to contact them.
- Know that any concerns about your child's welfare will be listened to and responded to.
- Know what qualifications and training those with responsibility for your child have. The organisation will ensure that all activities are properly supervised/ taught/ coached and consent is obtained for any activity outside of that previously agreed.
- Be informed of problems or concerns relating to your child, where appropriate- including illness during a training session or event.
- Know the procedure should your child be involved in an accident or become injured.
- Provide your consent or otherwise for photography and trips away.
- Make a complaint to the club committee, Welfare Officer or Swim England Office (as appropriate). Details can be found at www.thameswimmingclub.co.uk

As a parent/guardian of a club member we expect you to:

Essentials

- 1 Help your child enjoy the sport and to achieve to the best of their ability
- 2 Make sure your child has the right kit for training and competitions as well as enough food and drink.
- 3 Ensure your child arrives to sessions on time and is picked up promptly. Coaches are responsible for your child's safety and welfare during the time of the training session and cannot be held responsible if your child is unsupervised after the session has finished. It is the parent/ guardian's responsibility for their child in the changing area.
- 4 Inform us immediately if you're running late to collect your child or if your child is going home with someone else.
- 5 Inform the coach/ poolside helper if my child is to be collected early from a training session/ event and if so, by whom.
- 6 Complete all consent, contact details (including alternative person) and medical forms and update us straight away if anything changes.
- 7 Maintain a good relationship with your child's coach and committee members.
- 8 Support and encourage any changes in group, training times or lane your child is training in. Changes will be made to enable your child to progress.
- 9 Support the coaches and committee appropriately and raise any concerns you may have in an appropriate manner.
- 10 Tell us if you wish to talk to us about any concerns regarding your child or another child who swims with Thames Swimming Club. We will arrange a mutually convenient time so you can talk to us.
- 11 Share all concerns around a swimmer's mental health including incidences of bullying. Concerns will be shared with the Head Coach and Welfare Officer. It may be necessary to share the concern with coaches or committee members as applicable.
- 12 Not enter poolside or interrupt training or competitions unless in an emergency situation.

- 13 Accompany a swimmer under the age of 16 at galas and events or ensure that the coaching staff and team managers are aware of who is the named adult responsible for your child at each meet.
- 14 The club is run on a volunteer basis. There is an expectation that ALL parents/ carers/ guardians (or relatives) will help support where needed in the running of the club and assist with galas/ fundraising events. Parents within the club should volunteer or will be asked to undertake roles- some of which will require taking additional training for example to become an official or team manager. If there are not enough parents/ carers/ relatives to assist when required, this could result in events being cancelled or swimmers not being able to attend galas.

Behaviour

- 1 Show appreciation and support your child and all team members.
- 2 Behave positively as a spectator at training or competitions and treat others with respect.
- 3 Give encouragement to your child and tell them when they have done well and provide support when they are struggling.
- 4 Respect and celebrate difference in our club or activity and not discriminate against anyone else on the grounds of gender, race, sexual orientation, faith or ability.
- 5 Respect the children and adults competing for other teams at competitions.
- 6 Respect the committee members, coaching team and all volunteer helpers at the club.
- 7 Understand that the use of abusive or inappropriate language, bullying, physical violence or any other behaviour which hurts others will not be tolerated by the club.
- 8 Not use any device to take photographs or footage in the changing areas during any Thame Swimming Club training sessions or galas.
- 9 Any use of devices for photographs or videos at poolside must only be used with permission of the head coach or Head referee (if at a gala) and the swimmer's and parent's consent.
- 10 Report any concerns you have about others taking photographs or footage of others in the changing rooms or poolside.
- 11 Understand that poor behaviour may result in the club taking disciplinary action against you. Any behaviour which alleges a criminal offence will be reported to police by the club.
- 12 Talk to your child and ensure they understand the rules of the club and the sport.
- 13 Ensure your child understands their Code of Conduct and behaviours in accordance to the principles set out.

Breaches of this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action being taken against you by the club committee. Continued issues and repeated breaches may result in parents/ guardians being asked not to attend the club, something we never want to do.

Signature of parent/guardian

Print name

Date