

Brighton Swimming Club Guidelines for Parental Responsibility at Training sessions & Competitions

Swimmer behaviour and conduct

Swimmers are expected to behave at all times in a manner that upholds the good reputation of the club. Swimmers must respect all staff, pool facilities, equipment and other pool users when attending training sessions or competitions. Swimmers are advised to use the lockers to secure their belongings, or take these on poolside. Swimmers are requested not to leave anything valuable in the changing rooms.

Parent responsibilities

Parents, relatives, siblings etc. are not permitted to use the grounds, buildings or non designated car parks of privately owned school pools.

Swimmers age under 12 and over 12

The club has a responsibility for the well-being of swimmers during training sessions but swimmers under the age of 12 years should not be left at training without a parent, guardian or nominated adult. This is in case of illness, injury or session cancellation / early termination. Swimmers who are 12 and over should always have a means of contacting a parent & parents must ensure that their child & club has their current contact details & is actually contactable during training. The club will not assume responsibility for any age of swimmers who arrive early/dropped off for their training and are unsupervised. Parents must always check that training is actually taking place & that coaches are present before leaving their child.

The Club's responsibilities – collection and drop off

The ASA view is that each affiliated club has a duty of reasonable care to swimmers, which extends to an awareness on the part of the club that their junior members have been collected after training, however when changing rooms are also accessible to the public it would be extreme to expect the club to search the changing areas in case a junior club member was there. In this case best practice is for all junior members and their parents to be aware that if swimmers are not collected by a parent, then they should make that known to a coach on poolside or a known parent. *Parents/guardians of older swimmers should ensure that they arrive at the venue before the end of the training session to take responsibility for their child as they leave the pool area. This is particularly important if your child is participating in the last or only session at that pool.*

Conduct before and after training

While the club takes responsibility for children during training in and around the pool it cannot be held solely responsible for members before or after training sessions in changing rooms. This has to be a shared responsibility between club & parents. The ASA do not advise adults to supervise changing facilities as that places them and the swimmers at risk of harm and allegation. Members of the public may be present in the mixed sex changing village of some pools. Parents should not be in the changing room while swimmers are changing, unless your child is of an age where help is required (aged 8 and below) or your child requires additional support/assistance. Spending prolonged time in the changing rooms with older swimmers who DO NOT need help is not recommended as this may be open to misinterpretation.