



Pool Complex Child Admission Policy

- Purpose:** The aim of this policy is to protect children, who historically are those most at risk of drowning in swimming pools. The Watershed's policy is set against the background of the advice and guidance of the following relevant organisations: Irish Water Safety, Swim Ireland and Ireland Active.
- Scope:** Any customer who is aged up to and including the age of fifteen is regarded as a Child for the purpose of this policy.
- Admission:** Child admission is permitted within our 'Children's Hours' only i.e. not before 9am in the morning and no later than 6pm in the evening. All children must have vacated the Pool by 7pm (7:30pm on Fridays). Exclusions to these hours may apply in the case of private/group lessons. Children are not permitted into the Health Suite. The Health Suite is for customers aged 16 and over only.
- Supervision:**
- Adults must accompany the children into the water and actively supervise them at all times - supervision from the Pool Deck or Viewing Gallery is not acceptable
 - A supervising adult is a responsible person aged eighteen or older
 - All children **aged ten or under** must be accompanied by supervising adults
 - Children aged eleven or over may swim without being accompanied by a supervising adult
- Ratios:**
- One adult supervisor must accompany every two children aged seven or under
 - If there are three or four children aged seven or under, a second adult supervisor is required
 - For children aged eight, nine and ten, the ratio is one adult supervisor for every three children
- Example:** **One adult** may supervise: **two** children aged seven or under **plus** one child aged eight/nine/ten OR **one** child aged seven or under **plus** two children aged eight/nine/ten
- One extra** child in **either age group** requires a **second adult** supervisor.

Please Note:

We have a lifeguard or lifeguards on duty at all times. The role of the lifeguard is to oversee the entire pool and everyone in it, rather than to provide individual supervision. Lifeguards cannot and should not, be expected to replace the care, responsibility and supervision of parents.