

# Children's Swimming Lessons

## Frequently Asked Questions

### **Do I have to be a Member at Odyssey Knebworth?**

At least one Parent has to be a Member.

(the membership has to be active throughout the duration of the Swimming Lesson course)

### **What age does my Child have to be?**

We start Swimming Lessons from the age of 3.

### **What day and time do the Lessons run?**

They run every Saturday between 9.45am and 1.45pm.

On odd occasions we may have to change the times but you would be notified in advance.

### **How long are the Lessons?**

They are for 30 minutes

### **How many weeks do they run for?**

They run for twelve consecutive weeks.

If they are cancelled by us or our Instructor is on Annual Leave then the full twelve weeks will still be completed. We do not offer additional lessons or refunds for Swimming Lessons missed by you. A list of dates for the twelve weeks will be available at the start of the course and will advise of any planned dates that lessons will not take place.

### **Who teaches the Children?**

We have two qualified Swimming Instructors, Victoria and Peter, who have taught Children's Lessons for a number of years.

### **What are the Children working towards?**

Towards the ASA Standards, achieving Certificates and Badges. They are generally tested at the end of each course on the Stage they have been working towards. If the criteria they need to achieve to pass the Stage is more in depth than it would be impossible to cover in the twelve weeks they will be tested when necessary.

### **How are the Groups set out?**

The Groups are set in Stages. We have Duckling Awards levels 1 to 5, then ASA Stages 1 – 7. Your Child will be grouped on their ability not on their age.

You may find that your Child does not achieve every certificate if they are already past that stage on joining. We unfortunately do not have the ability to group siblings (if they are attending lessons also) in the same groups, each Child is grouped on their own ability, please be aware that this could mean one Child in a morning lesson and one in the afternoon.

### **Is the Group and Time the same each twelve week Course?**

As your Child progresses they will move to a different Group which means the times of the Swimming Lessons will change. As we have two Instructors they may well be with a different Instructor depending on which Group they are placed in.

### **How many Children are there in each Group?**

The majority of our Groups have 6 Children and the maximum is 8.

### **Do I have to get into the Pool with them?**

No, unless in the younger groups and your Child would benefit from you getting into the water. Victoria or Peter will advise you.

### **How much does the twelve week Course cost?**

The price at present is £75.00.

(this is subject to change but you would be notified in advance)

### **How does my Child get a Space?**

We operate a system on Assessments. There will be a notice put up prior to the date the Assessments are to take place. There will be an Assessment date each twelve week course, generally around Week 10 of the current course. The week before the Assessment date (this will always fall on a Saturday) you will be able to contact Reception and add your name to the list. There will only be a limited number of spaces available and we have set this at fifteen.

### **What happens when they come for the Assessment?**

Your Child will be asked to get into the water so one of our Instructors is able to see their Swimming ability; you are more than welcome to get into the water with them if that would make them feel more at ease. You will not be in the water any longer than 15 minutes.

### **Is my Child guaranteed a space if I bring them for an Assessment?**

Unfortunately we cannot guarantee any spaces. Spaces only become available if a Child currently attending Swimming Lessons does not renew or someone moves up or down a Group.

### **How frequently do Spaces become available?**

At the end of each course we always have spaces available for the next twelve weeks, we average about five per course, hence the reason for limiting spaces for Assessments, we want to make it as viable as possible for the Children attending to get a space.

### **When will I find out if my Child has a Space?**

All the Children currently attending lessons have the opportunity to renew. Their space is guaranteed for the next course as long as the renewal form and payment are received by the specified deadline date. We will generally know before the end of the Course what spaces are available, I will then contact everyone who came for the Assessment to let them know either way.

### **What happens if my Child doesn't get a space - are they put on to a Waiting List?**

Unfortunately we do not operate a Waiting List, you will however be sent details of when the next Assessment will take place, you will then have the opportunity to book in again. If we know you have attended before then you will be more likely to be offered a space before those who have not.

### **Why is there not a Waiting List?**

From past experience over the years we have been running Swimming Lessons it has not proved to be successful. We have been in situations where we have had a number of people waiting for up to a year before getting a space. We have found by offering a limited number of Assessments the turn around has proved to be greater, it enables the parent to decide if they want to commit to attending weekly Swimming Lessons and to book in accordingly.

I hope this answers the questions you may have had and enables you to have a better understanding of how our Children's Swimming Lessons run at Odyssey Knebworth.

If you have not done so already please register your interest at Reception so we have the correct contact details.

**Kind Regards**

**Kellie (Swimming Co-ordinator)**