

(Programme Name) **risk assessment**

Note: this is a sample document only and indicates what kinds of information to include. We strongly recommend that you seek more information about Water Safety, such as OSCN's Water Safety Handbook and its supporting documents.



This document refers to use of a school pool. Public pools pose their own particular hazards: variable water depths, water slides, floating play structures, noise and behaviour of the public. We recommend you ask the pool operator for their risk assessment document and house rules and become familiar with these in advance of any visit.

Activity details	Swimming in school pool, after school session.		
	FORM COMPLETED BY Name:	Signature:	Date:
	ACTIVITY APPROVED BY Name:	Signature:	Date:

Review	Comments:		
	Recommendations:		
	REVIEW MADE BY Name:	Signature:	Date:

Details of hazards / risks (<i>people, behaviour, equipment, environment</i>)	Action taken to reduce the risk of harm
Supervision – inadequate coverage	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - staff supervising the pool must be mature, experienced supervisors - at least one qualified first aider will be at the pool, at all times - ensure staff are positioned for best visibility; staff to swap positions every 10 minutes - buddy system in the pool, head count before entering water, regular head and buddy check, clearly account for children who have left water

Too many swimmers in pool – overcrowding, collisions, trampling	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - staff ratio: (specify) - maximum number of children in the pool - children to enter and exit pool in an orderly fashion, at specified points and must wait for staff permission - when leaving water, a staff member supervises the exit point - members of the public, keep our swimmers separate where possible - constantly re-assess environment during activity: weather / heat / air quality / public swimmers etc
Staff fatigue, inattention	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a senior supervisor will monitor other staff for fatigue / distraction - maintain coverage at all times; constant attention to activity in the water - if feeling fatigued, staff should ask to be relieved - staff to be informed about drowning risk (Further information: OSCAR Water Safety Manual)
Different ages/abilities of swimmers	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - separate swimmers into different groups and allocate to appropriate pool areas
Water depth, especially sudden changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - notify children, set clear boundaries and supervising staff to be positioned to monitor these areas - mark boundaries for water depth using cones/ropes
Swimmer in difficulty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - staff to be trained on signs of swimmers in difficulty - flotation aids will be on hand and utilised when any warning signs
Blind spots – e.g. by pool cover	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identify blind spots, these areas are out of bounds
Glare – visibility	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - staff to have suitable sun glasses and be positioned to reduce effects of glare
Behaviour around the pool – running/pushing into pool	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - firmly enforced rules and consequences; one warning only, then out of the pool for rest of the session

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