

OTC: Pool Admission Standards 2026

- Anybody under 16 years of age must pass a swim test or wear a lifejacket
- Unsupervised swimmers can be 10 years and over, but **MUST** have strongly passed a swim test
- Lifeguards may refuse deep end access if they feel any swimmer is unsafe
- Please note that lifejackets are a supplement, not a replacement for supervision

Swim Tests

Requirements:

- swim continuously and independently, using a strong swimming stroke whilst on their front for two widths of the pool
- tread water for 30 seconds
- during this time swimmers cannot touch the pool floor at any time

On completion of the swim test swimmers will be issued a wristband:

- ◆ **Green:** Strong swim test pass: Allowed to swim in any part of pool without lifejacket
- ◆ **Orange:** Weak swim test pass: Can swim in deep end with a lifejacket, or stay within shallow end (without a lifejacket)
- ◆ **Red:** Failed swim test: Must wear a lifejacket and remain in shallow end

If swimmer is under 16 years of age and does not complete the swim test then a lifejacket must be worn.

At the lifeguard's discretion, a lifejacket may be removed when supervised on a 1to1 basis by a caregiver (16+): but only when that caregiver has the sole purpose of increasing water confidence and swimming ability of a young child. This may not be allowed when the pool is too busy.

General Age Requirments

Swimmers aged 0-5 years:

- 1 caregiver (16+) per 2 children
- must remain within arm's reach
- lifejacket worn unless passed swim test

Swimmers aged 6-9 years:

- 1 caregiver (16+) per 4 children unless all children are wearing lifejackets in which case it can increase to 1:8
- Lifejacket worn unless passed swim test

Swimmers aged 10-15 years

- Caregiver (16+) supervision if child has not passed a swim test. Caregiver should remain in the pool area
- if child passed a swim test caregiver (16+) is recommended, and should stay in pool area.
- Lifejacket worn unless swim test passed

Swimmers aged 16 and over

- No restrictions, but must obey lifeguard instructions and recommendations at all times.