

# **ROOKIE LIFEGUARD SESSIONS – DURING COVID-19 (Booking Information)**

On the 20<sup>th</sup> of March, **Settle Area Swimming Pool** was given compulsory closure due to the on-going Coronavirus Pandemic. This was a huge blow to the pool but a must in order to ensure the safety of our staff and customers.

The pool reopened as a COVID-19 secure facility on the 7<sup>th</sup> of August and we are now pleased to announce that Rookie Lifeguard Sessions will restart on a phased entry Thursday, 8<sup>th</sup> of October.

Swimming is a lifesaving skill and a great form of exercise with many benefits to customers health and well-being. It is never too late to learn to swim and Settle Area Swimming Pool provides lessons for all ages and abilities, from new born babies to adults.

### **COVID-19 Safe Rookie Lifeguard Sessions**

During these strange times, we understand that many of our customers are naturally concerned about the idea of returning or starting swimming lessons. Settle Area Swimming Pool prior to and since its reopening in August has ensured it has adhered to and follows all new guidelines issued from our governing bodies (Swim England, The Royal Lifesaving Society and the Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group) as well as government organisations (Public Health England) to ensure our staff and customers are as safe as possible.

We can assure you that when you enter our building the pool is SAFE, enhanced hygiene measures are in place, our staff are trained and ready to welcome you back through our doors.

We have been working hard whilst we have been closed to make some exciting changes to how our lessons are delivered and the way our classes are structured. These changes allow our lessons to be as fun and more progressive than before.

What has changed? What do you need to be aware of before entering the building?

- New operating procedures in place including pre-booking and pre-paying.
- A new delivery programme, which ensures our lessons are safe, fun for all children and enhances their progression through the Rookie Lifeguard Programme. A reduced number of swimmers per class and children will be ability grouped to ensure progression.
- Completion of a Health Survey prior to entering the building, which must be kept upto-date by notifying the pool of any changes.

- Enhanced cleaning regimes throughout our opening.
- Hand sanitisation is mandatory for all customers entering and leaving the building.
- Social distancing and new operating procedure posters displayed.
- Access to changing rooms is limited.
- Showers prior to entry in the pool is mandatory.
- Lockers are out of use as are hairdryers. Customers will need to bring essential items only and pop all their belongings in a sanitised plastic container.
- Limited use of equipment which will be sanitised before and after each lesson.

All our swimmers will need to arrive at their pre-booked, pre-paid lessons "beach ready". Swimmers will no longer be accepted who have not been booked in and paid for prior to lessons.

Customers will be required to complete a Health Survey prior to entering the building. If they, or a member of their household, has, or have, any signs or symptoms of COVID-19, they are not to enter the building or attend swimming lessons.

Anyone with COVID-19 symptoms such as:

- a) A new continuous cough
- b) A high temperature
- c) A loss of, or change to sense of smell or taste

Are advised to stay at home a self-isolate in line with government guidelines

https://www.nhs.uk/conditions/coronavirus-covid19/symptoms/?fbclid=IwAR1PwxVCSjIY5ksVSHTpu R6B72\_A8JDcxPsxHoCw2gvgmcMbtJCkwhfpkks

## Please notify us of any changes to your health circumstances immediately.

Please also note that children who are within a "bubble" at school and are told to isolate must also not attend swimming lessons until government guidance has been followed.

Swimmers must not arrive any earlier then 10 mins prior to their session. They will need to be wearing their swimming attire underneath their clothes with suitable clothing to pop on after their lesson e.g. dressing gown or onesie in order to make a quick exit out of the building. Staff can not be expected to be chasing swimmers out of the building.

In order to ensure social distancing throughout the building, we ask that all parents wait (socially distanced) with their children at the front door and their teacher will greet them through our doors. No parents must enter the building unless prior arrangements have been made which we are happy to accommodate. If prior arrangement has been made, then we ask that only one parent or guardian come to view the lessons and that siblings only come if it is absolutely necessary. Facemasks are mandatory for all spectators from the age of 11 onwards. Parents who have dropped their children off with us will need to ensure we have

an up-to-date mobile telephone number, the mobile phone is answered upon a call from the pool and they sit in their cars on the car park in case of an emergency.

Group lessons have been reduced to only two classes with a maximum of 5 children in each class. At the end of each lesson, the swimmers will access the changing rooms from poolside, have a quick shower and get dressed ASAP into their onesie or warm dressing gown. Parents will be asked to meet the swimmers outside the building, at the front door. Toilets and washing facilities will be available for our swimmers but children are encouraged to ensure they go to the toilet prior to their lesson so this does not take valuable time from their lesson. Please ensure all swimming hats are on securely prior to the lesson, goggles are adjusted and can put them on themselves. Teachers can no longer help the children and will mean they miss important time in their lesson unless they are competent at putting on their goggles quickly.

To ensure the safety of all our swimmers and minimise areas of contact, all will be encouraged to stay socially distanced (2m) throughout the building. All of our swimming teachers will teach from poolside only. Changing spaces will be allocated in the changing rooms and lockers will be out of use as will the hair dryers.

#### What do I do next?

Rookie lifeguard sessions were suspended when the pool was given compulsory closure in March 2020, which left our existing customers with two weeks of lessons, which we were unable to deliver. All of our existing customers will shortly receive a phone call from a member of staff to confirm their wish to continue with lessons and confirm their allocated day and time. Allocated days/times will be for a maximum of six consecutive weeks of lessons. Lessons will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis. We will endeavour to keep siblings swimming at the same time but, unfortunately, we can no longer be flexible on days and times. Customers who had children swimming with us in March and their accounts are up-to-date, will be offered two free swims for their children in lieu of lessons undelivered. Please give us a call Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays and we will get them booked in! Please note child supervision ratios apply and all free swims must be taken prior to the 31st of October 2020.

#### How do I book and pay for Rookie Lifeguard Sessions?

Once you have received telephone confirmation from a member of staff of your allocated day/time, please click the button "Book Session" which appears on our website (www.settleswimmingpool.co.uk). This will open up the home page for our online booking system where customers will need to create a Member account(s) for their child (ren). Please complete the necessary details ensuring you enter a contact telephone number (which will be answered) and have completed the Health Survey (ParQ). Once an account has been created please purchase from our "Membership Plans" a Rookie Session Pass, which guarantees your child's place.

If you are a new customer wishing to join the Rookie Lifeguard Programme please do not hesitate to download an application form from our website and send to the Swimming Co-Ordinator by e-mail <a href="mailto:info@settleswimmingpool.co.uk">info@settleswimmingpool.co.uk</a>. Unfortunately, due to the nature of our closure and the restriction/guidelines in place due to COVID-19, priority will initially be given to our customers who were swimming with us in March 2020. However, new customers are welcome to apply for a place and we will endeavour to accommodate you.

Thank you for your co-operation.

We look forward to seeing all our swimmers back in the pool!