

Children's Activities Code of Conduct (Under 18)

Scope

This code of conduct is designed for children and young people under 18 attending activities* at Bridport Leisure Centre. It aims to ensure a safe, enjoyable, and respectful environment for everyone. The leisure centre is committed to safeguarding and promoting the wellbeing of all participants, encouraging openness about any concerns. Participants, parents/guardians, and staff should work together to uphold these standards.

Your Rights as a Participant

As a participant, you have the right to:

- Be safe and happy in your chosen activity.
- Be listened to.
- Be respected and treated fairly.
- Enjoy activities in a protective environment.
- Be protected from abuse by others or outside sources.
- Participate on an equal basis, appropriate to your ability.
- Be believed and have any concerns taken seriously and acted on.
- Ask for help or be referred to professional support if needed.
- Feel welcomed, valued, and not judged based on race, gender, sexuality, faith, ability, or any other characteristic.
- Be looked after if there's an accident or injury, with your parents/guardians informed where appropriate.

Expected Behaviours

To help create a positive experience, participants are expected to:

- Follow the rules of the leisure centre, activities, and any specific guidelines (e.g., facility etiquette, attire, and equipment use).
- Listen to and follow instructions from coaches, instructors, or staff at all times, including during warm-ups, activities, and cool-downs.
- Respect staff, other participants, opponents, and volunteers—treat everyone with dignity regardless of age, gender, ability, race, cultural background, religious beliefs, or sexual identity.
- Be supportive, encouraging, and committed to team members; offer comfort when needed and be gracious in defeat.
- Participate fairly, avoid cheating, violence, aggression, or rough play.
- Report any inappropriate behaviour, risky situations, bullying, or concerns (e.g., about photography in changing areas) to a staff member.
- Arrive on time for sessions or inform staff if running late; bring the right kit (e.g., suitable clothing and any required items).
- Refrain from using abusive or inappropriate language, bullying, physical violence or any other behaviour which hurts others.

- Avoid inappropriate peer pressure or pushing others into unwanted actions.
- Respect the privacy of others, especially in the changing rooms.
- Not use mobile devices in changing areas or inappropriately during activities.
- Never leave the premises without permission from staff; inform if you have difficulties attending.
- Get involved in decisions where possible—it's your activity too.
- Keep sessions fun and positive for everyone.

Supervision and Safety

- Participants must follow the leisure centre safety rules, including pool and changing room regulations.
- Take care of equipment, facilities, and premises as if they were your own; stay within defined activity areas.
- Report any injuries, unsafe behaviour, or damaged equipment to a coach or staff member immediately.
- Do not engage in rough play or dangerous behaviour in or out of the pool.
- Parents/guardians must provide consent and medical information before participation, and be informed of any issues.
- In case of injury or emergency, staff will follow procedures and contact parents/guardians.
- Parents/guardians are responsible for their child outside of the designated activity whilst still using the centre's facility.

Consequences of Breaking the Code

- **First Incident:** Verbal warning from staff and a reminder of the Code of Conduct.
- **Second Incident:** Temporary removal from the activity and a discussion with a parent/guardian.
- **Third Incident:** Potential suspension from activities for a set period, to be determined by leisure centre staff in consultation with parents/guardians.
- **Serious or repeated violations:** may result in permanent exclusion from activities.

Parent/Guardian Responsibilities

- Ensure your child understands and agrees to follow this Code of Conduct.
- Provide emergency contact information and promptly respond to any communications from leisure centre staff.
- Support staff in addressing any behavioural concerns involving your child.

Agreement. By participating in leisure centre activities, you agree to follow this Code of Conduct. Parents/guardians should discuss it with their child.

Let's work together to create a fun, safe, and welcoming environment for everyone!

* Activities include: Holiday Club; Swim School; Gymnastics; AcroDance; Waterpolo; Rookie Lifeguard