

**1. WHY SHOULD I OR MY CHILD LEARN TO SWIM?**

New Zealand as an island nation is never more than 40 minutes to a beach, river, lake or stream. A lot of our recreational activities are water-based and being able to swim will ensure that you or your child can safely be part of the fun.

**2. WHEN SHOULD I OR MY CHILD STOP SWIMMING?**

Water Safety NZ have recommended that every person in New Zealand should be able to confidently swim 200m continuously and competently – i.e. 10 lengths of a 20m pool. However, swimming is an activity that needs continual practice. If you stop you may go backwards in fitness and technique.

**3. I AM REALLY FIT – I RUN AND BIKE A LOT, WHY DO I FIND SWIMMING SO HARD?**

Swimming fitness is very different to land based activities. In the water you have to control your breathing and co-ordinate your limbs. The continual water resistance also ensures you are exerting more energy at a continuous rate.

**4. AT KINGS UP TO LEVEL 6 YOU ONLY SWIM HALFWAY, WHY?**

We believe that technique at the early stages is *very* important. If a beginner swimmer swims one length poorly – without feedback, they are learning bad habits. We stop swimmers at halfway so we can communicate with them and give them feedback on how to improve.

**5. WE ARE GOING ON HOLIDAY, CAN MY CHILD HAVE A MAKE UP LESSONS?**

We do not and cannot provide catch-up lessons for swimmers who choose to do other activities at their lesson time. We will however consider a credit for lessons missed through medical reasons if three or more consecutive lessons are missed and a medical certificate can be provided. Credits are not transferable. Each swimmer is entitled to one leave day per six months once 10 consecutive weeks of lessons have been completed. A leave form must be completed with one month's notice given.

**6. WHY DOESN'T MY CHILD IMPROVE LIKE OTHERS?**

Simply put we are all different in all areas. You should never compare your child to other children as everyone has different learning and physical capabilities. Development stages must always be considered. Just like school, where children are in different reading and math groups.

**7. WHAT SIZE ARE YOUR CLASSES?**

Babies and Preschool are 3-6 per class depending on age.

After School ratios are as followed:

- Levels 1 to 3 – 3 swimmers per teacher
- Level 4 – 4 swimmers per teacher
- Level 5 – 5 swimmers per teacher
- Levels 6 to 11 – 6 swimmers per teacher

**8. HOW LONG AND DEEP ARE THE POOLS?**

The main pool is 20m x 6m and is 900mm to 1.35m deep, it is heated to 30.5 degrees.

The small pool is 6m x 5m and is 750mm to 850mm deep, it is heated to 33.5 degrees.

**9. DO YOU TEACH SCHOOL GROUP LESSONS?**

Yes, we do – we can send your school out an information. Please contact [info@swimkings.co.nz](mailto:info@swimkings.co.nz)

**10. DO I NEED TO STAY FOR MY CHILD'S LESSON?**

Yes. This is not a public facility, so you need to supervise your child/children before and after lessons

**11. WILL MY CHILD HAVE THE SAME TEACHER THROUGHOUT THE YEAR?**

We would like to do this however, we have a lot of University students working at Kings Swim School and their timetables can change on a regular basis and without notice. This is unfortunately outside of our control, we endeavour to give parents as much notice as possible of any teacher changes and for any permanent teaching changes we try to have a 2-week handover period.

**12. MY CHILD WANTS TO DO COMPETITION SWIMMING, HOW FAR CAN THEY DO?**

Kings owner Todd Mason is the Head Coach for Vikings Swim Club that swim out of the Kings facility. Todd is one of the most respected coaches in New Zealand and overseas, he was part of the 2004 Athens Olympic coaching team. If you have any questions about moving into competition swimming, please contact Todd at [todd@swimkings.co.nz](mailto:todd@swimkings.co.nz)

**13. IS KINGS PRIVATELY OR COUNCIL OWNED?**

Kings Swim School is privately owned and operated by Todd Mason and Pam Berry-Mason. We aim to provide an inclusive, safe, and friendly learn to swim experience. We aim to be the most successful Learn to Swim School in Christchurch; being recognised as leaders of aquatic education in New Zealand.

Learning to swim does not fit into the same leisure category as rugby, tennis, soccer, ballet gym lessons etc. It is a *skill* that can **SAVE** your child's life.

You're never too young or too old to start learning to swim.