

Chalfont Otters Swimming Club



Dear Parent,

We welcome you and your child to Chalfont Otters Swimming Club. We hope your child will enjoy the experience of being a club member including the training, competitions and the social interaction with all our members. This letter is aimed at giving you information that may be of assistance to you as new members. Please do ask me, the club Welfare Officer or any committee member or coach if you have other questions not covered in this letter.

Firstly who runs the club? A full list of the club officers, committee members and coaches can be found on the website. Below is a list of some of those officers for your information.

Club Chairman: Terry Norris	terrynorris@chalfontotters.org.uk
Club Secretary: Natalie Worsfold	natalieworsfold@chalfontotters.org.uk
Club Welfare Officer: Liz Phippen	lizhippen@chalfontotters.org.uk
Head Coach: Kelvin Jones	kelvinjones@chalfontotters.org.uk

A copy of the Official Otters Handbook can be downloaded via our website. Please go to the members section of www.chalfontotters.org.uk and print off your copy. It includes valuable information about how to make the most of your swimming training & how to prepare for galas.

Your child has already been assessed as to what level they are currently achieving to place them in the appropriate training squad. Details of the coaching team, training times and much more can be found on the website too.

We are a Swim21 club and follow the guidance in Wavepower for child safeguarding, the ASA Code of Ethics and Codes of Conduct.

You have signed the parent's code of conduct, which goes alongside similar codes for the coaches, officers and swimmers. You may have also been asked to read and countersign the swimmers code of conduct for your child if they are under 12.

While we hope your child will be happy and content at the club sometimes questions, concerns or issues may arise.

If you have a question regarding coaching you should in the first instance approach your child's coach. Do so at a time convenient to you both and please do not go on poolside and interrupt training sessions. The coaches will be happy to arrange a time before or after training to discuss any training issues.



If you have a question or concern regarding child welfare the club welfare officer should be informed. Alternatively there is a dedicated helpline for anyone wishing to raise a safeguarding or welfare concern directly to the ASA called Swimline.

Swimline contact details can be found in the welfare section of the club website, www.chalfontotters.org.uk.

Our club is committed to providing good child safeguarding practice for all our young members and we have adopted the ASA Safeguarding Policy, known as Wavepower, a copy of which is held by the Welfare Officer or can be viewed and downloaded from www.swimming.org. Our club is one where we accept that good safeguarding and fair play is paramount for all our young members.

Otters are always looking for parental help to run the club. You may offer to help or a member of the committee may approach you to see if you are able to assist. We are a totally voluntary run club and appreciate all the help parents can give us, however small.

And finally we hope you and your child enjoy being a member of Chalfont Otters.

Kind regards

Jen Hutchison
Membership Secretary

Useful websites for parents, children and young people:

Kidscape - have a helpline and downloadable leaflets on what to do if your child is being bullied. The ASA have formed a relationship with Kidscape and can when required refer swimmers who have been bullied to attend the WIZ course in London. www.Kidscape.org.uk

NSPCC - Help for adults. Worried about a child? Call the NSPCC Child Protection Helpline on 0808 800 5000.

Childline - Help for children and teenagers. Need advice or just want to talk? Call ChildLine 0800 1111. Calls are free and confidential.

www.culture.gov.uk - Help keep your child safe in sport. A child protection leaflet for parents. Downloadable or your club Welfare Officer will have a copy.

Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) - Call 0116 234 7278. CPSU have useful downloadable documents at www.cpsu.org.uk including:

- Club safety list for parents.
- Protecting your child by listening.
- How you can help make sport safe.

