Shetland Recreational Trust strictly adheres to the following health and safety guidelines for children under 8 years of age during public swimming sessions.*

All under 8s must be accompanied in the water by a responsible person (16 years or over) as follows:

**0-3 years old**
One responsible person can accompany one child with or without armbands,
OR
One responsible person can accompany two children with armbands.

**4-7 years old**
One responsible person can accompany up to two children with or without armbands. They may add a third child if at least one child has completed ASA/ISRM Pool Swimming Standard Award.

**Mixed Ages**
One responsible person can accompany one child 0-3 years old and one child 4-7 years old, if the 0-3 year old is wearing armbands.
They may add a third child if that child is 4-7 years old and has completed ASA/ISRM Pool Swimming Standard Award.

*Effective from 11 June 2012.*
Additional Control Measures

The following additional control measures are in place throughout all SRT facilities where applicable:

**Toddlers Pools**
Armbands need not be worn in Toddlers Pools.

**Rapid River**
One responsible person must accompany one child under 8 years regardless of swimming ability.

**Flumes**
Children under 8 years may only use the Flumes if they exceed the height restriction and a responsible person is waiting for them at the run-outs to either collect them and/or send them back up the steps for another ride.

**Deep Water and Diving Boards**
Children aged 4-7 years who have completed the ASA/ISRM Pool Swimming Standard Award can go beyond the red arrow indicators for non-swimmers and enter deep water. If these children wish to use Diving Boards they must be accompanied by a responsible person who controls their use.

**Inflatable**
Children under 8 years may use the inflatables if they wear approved armbands and a responsible person maintains a constant watch over them or they are aged 4-7 years, have achieved the ASA/ISRM Pool Swimming Standard Award and a responsible person maintains a constant watch over them.

Frequently Asked Questions

**Q** What guidance was used to develop the Pool Admissions Policy?

**A** Guidance is available from Health and Safety Executive (HSE) and Institute of Sport and Recreation Management (ISRM). The guidance strongly recommends that all children under 8 years should always be accompanied in the water by a responsible person (16 years or over).

**Q** How was a decision reached on the number of children one responsible person can accompany?

**A** Risk assessments were carried out taking into account the design, layout and type of pool; the swimming ability and age of children and whether approved armbands are being worn by non-swimmers.

**Q** What is expected of the responsible person accompanying children under 8 years?

**A** They will need to go into the water with the children they are accompanying. Whilst in the pool they must maintain a constant watch over the children for whom they are responsible and be in close contact with those of their children who are weak or non-swimmers (i.e. children who have not completed the ASA/ISRM Pool Swimming Standard Award). Children should never be left on the poolside or in the pool without an accompanying responsible person.

**Q** How does my child complete the ASA/ISRM Pool Swimming Standard Award?

**A** Just ask at reception prior to your swim and we’ll arrange for your child to be assessed during your visit. The criteria to achieve the award are as follows:

- Jump from the side of the pool into water of a depth of 1.5m or more so that the head fully submerges, then;
- Tread water for 1 minute and finally;
- Swim 50 metres under 2 minutes.