

BNSC Code of Conduct for Parents & Guardians

As a parent or guardian of a BNSC member, you have the right to:

- Be assured that your child is safeguarded while at BNSC.
 - Access the club's policies, rules, and procedures at any time.
 - Know who the Club Welfare Officer is and how to contact them.
 - Have any concerns about your child's welfare listened to and acted upon.
 - Know the qualifications and training of those responsible for your child.
 - Be informed of problems or concerns about your child, where appropriate.
 - Understand the procedure if your child is injured or has an accident.
 - Give (or withhold) consent for photography and trips away.
 - Make a complaint to the club committee or Welfare Officer (see BNSC Complaints Policy).
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Your Responsibilities

Supporting Your Child in the Sport

- Follow BNSC rules and this Code of Conduct at all times.
- Make sure your child has the correct kit for training and competitions, plus enough food and drink.
- Ensure a coach is present, the session is running, and your child is at poolside or in the changing rooms before you leave.
- Get your child to sessions on time and collect them promptly afterwards.
- Inform the club if you are running late for collection or if someone else will be collecting your child.
- Accept that, if a swimmer is late and has missed the warmup, it is the coach's decision whether they can take part.
- Ensure your child attends only the sessions for their squad unless the coach has agreed otherwise.
- Keep your contact, consent, and medical details up to date.
- Maintain a positive and respectful relationship with your child's coach or teacher.
- Arrange a mutually convenient time to speak to a coach about any concerns — do not interrupt training or competitions unless it's an emergency.
- To use WhatsApp groups and emails to contact coaches and committee members – to not message coaches or committee members via personal message.
- Take responsibility for your child's safety and behaviour before and after training, and outside the pool area (including changing rooms and public areas).
- Do not enter the changing rooms unless your child needs specific assistance (usually only required for children aged 7–8, or where there is a particular need). If you must assist, you must be the same gender as your child, unless using a family/mixed changing facility.
- Understand that if your child is not collected within 15 minutes after a session, the club's Late Collection Policy will apply, which may involve contacting the police or social services.
- Inform the coach of any changes to your child's health before training or competitions.
- If you need to collect your child early from training, ensure the coach is informed at the start of the session and that you collect your child from poolside/area of training.
- Support your child's nutrition in line with advice from the coach/nutritionist.

- Have at least one parent/carer of a swimmer registered as a member of Bristol North Swimming Club and Swim England.
 - Parents/carers and swimmers are required to inform the coaching team if the swimmer is undertaking swimming lessons or training with another provider, or if they are actively participating in training for other sports.
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Behaviour Standards

- Remember swimming is about more than winning — it helps children make friends, stay healthy, and develop skills.
 - Be a positive, respectful spectator at training and competitions.
 - Encourage your child when they do well and support them when they face challenges.
 - Respect and celebrate diversity — never discriminate based on gender, race, sexual orientation, faith, or ability.
 - Never use mobile phones or devices in changing rooms or cubicles.
 - Only use phones or devices poolside if specifically allowed during an event – Follow the mobile phone usage policy set by the individual pool and event.
 - Show respect for swimmers, coaches, volunteers, officials, and parents from other teams.
 - Do not use abusive language, bullying, physical violence, or any behaviour that could harm others.
 - Understand that poor behaviour can lead to disciplinary action, and serious matters may be reported to the police.
 - Talk to your child about the club rules and help them understand their Swimmer Code of Conduct.
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If the Code of Conduct is Broken

Breaches of this Code of Conduct may result in disciplinary action being taken against you by the club committee.

Depending on the seriousness of the behaviour, the club may:

1. Remind you of the rules.
2. Give you a formal warning.
3. Suspend you from attending training or competitions.
(Steps 1 and 2 may be skipped in serious cases.)