

Drop off /collection policy

For parents and carers



Bromsgrove Swimming Club

February 2023

BSC parents/carers should be aware that:

Swimmers are the responsibility of their parent/carer until they are poolside and the coach has arrived.

The session is deemed to have ended when the swimmer leaves poolside.

On completion of sessions/competitions etc, swimmers return to their parent's/carer's responsibility. BSC can not accept responsibility for swimmers at the end of sessions/competitions etc.

In the event of a swimmer completing the session/competition etc early, for any reason, they return to their parent's /carer's responsibility.

BSC can not accept responsibility for the welfare of a swimmer if this protocol is not followed.

Late Collection of Children

Occasionally, parents may be delayed or unable to collect their child from training or after an event on time. The list of emergency numbers provided on the BSC membership form will be used to contact the parents in such situations.

If the parent/carer is delayed, they should give the appropriate club office clear guidance as to how BSC will be required to proceed ie. the parent/carer must give consent if they wish for another parent to transport their child home. The officers must never leave a child or young person alone unless they are 16 or over, and then only with parental consent.

BSC recognises that some young people aged 16 and over will take themselves home, and parental consent should be given to the Club authorising this.

Until a child is collected, to maintain the wellbeing of all concerned, two appropriate people must remain with the member. If the nominated person(s) is unavailable to collect

the child, and the parent/carer has still not contacted the BSC after a reasonable period of time, BSC will consult the police or Children's Services/MASH for advice on action to take.

Parents/carers who persistently fail to collect a child on time or who have not arrived after a reasonable period of time, and have given no prior notice or informed BSC that they are delayed, may be failing in their duty of care to their child.

If a parent/carer arrives to collect a child and the officers are concerned at their ability to take appropriate care of the child (i.e. they are considered to be under the influence of alcohol or drugs to the level where they are unfit to drive, and/or take care of their child), BSC should gain advice from the police or Children's Services.

BSC should:

- Attempt to contact the parent/carer using contact details from the information sheet completed on joining/renewing membership.
- Attempt to contact the emergency contact or nominated person.
- If there is no reply from the parent, emergency contact or nominated person, ask the child if there is another family member who may be contacted.
- Wait with the young person at the organisation with at least one other responsible adult, e.g. an official, coach, teacher, volunteer or parent.
- If BSC are unable to reach someone, contact the local police to enquire about the best course of action.
- Remind parents/carers of the policy relating to late collection.

BSC should avoid:

- Taking the child home or to another location.
- Asking the child to wait in a vehicle.
- Waiting with the child at the organisation on your own.
- Sending the child home with another person without permission.

Persistent failure to collect a young person on time.

If a parent/carer fails to collect their child or young person on several occasions, with no contact from them or reasonable explanation for the delay, the welfare officer and another officer should arrange to meet with them and discuss the matter. It may be that the parent/carer can be assisted in arriving promptly.

If over the next few weeks there is no change, the welfare officer should either contact the Swim England Child Safeguarding Team, Children Services or MASH team for further advice.