

Learn To Swim is changing
NWL SWIM ACADEMY
is coming with some fantastic
new and exciting changes!

Launch date
**Saturday
27 September**

**Lessons
to be taught
to the ASA
National
Plan**

**Check how
your child is
doing online**

**Pay by
monthly
direct debit
from
£12.92**

**Select
the class
that your
child moves
to online**

Dear Learn To Swim Parent,

Over the past few months we have been working closely with our software provider and also a group of parents to bring about one of the biggest changes to learning to swim at Hermitage and Hood Park leisure centre. From Saturday 27 September 2014 not only will the name of the scheme be altering to NWL Swim Academy but you and your child will also benefit from fantastic, cutting edge developments that offer a new approach to swim progression and parent interaction.

Along with this leaflet you will have also received a bank mandate form and an NWL Swim Academy application form. The existing arrangements in relation to Learn to Swim will end on 26 September 2014 and if you wish for your child to continue to receive lessons, under the NWL Swim Academy arrangements, you will need to complete the enclosed application form and return by 9 August 2014.

What will these exciting changes mean?

The first major change that you will see is that if you pay by direct debit then this will be changing to monthly to make your payments easier to manage and more affordable. Read on to find out more. The second major change that you will see will be that the teachers will no longer be flipping through sheets of paper to record attendance and performance. When the scheme goes live each teacher will have a handheld unit onto which they will enter all attendance and the ongoing performance and development of your child.

Go online and see how your child is doing!

With this new state of the art technology you will be able to log on to <https://leisure.nwleics.gov.uk/Homeportal> and see exactly how your child is doing week to week and also what they need to work on in order to get to the next level. With your child's FREE weekend swim you can then come along to the leisure centres and help them by working on these specific areas.

You will be able to see how your child is progressing online from 27 October.

Continuous Assessment

Instead of having to wait until the end of the 12 week block of lessons for your child to move up, continuous assessment means that the teachers will be recording your child's progress every lesson. When your child has completed all the criteria within that level, the teacher will recommend to the Academy Co-ordinator that they be moved up to the next level. With the move to continuous assessment the old and outdated system of swimming lessons being a 12 week block will disappear. We will however have the normal breaks in lessons at Easter, August and Christmas.

Select the class that you want to move to

When your child is ready to move up you will receive an email from the Academy co-ordinator. This email will notify you that a place has become available on the next level and for you to log on to <https://leisure.nwleics.gov.uk/Homeportal> and select which class suits you. Once you select the class then this move will be made and you will see the date that your child starts their next level. This part of NWL Swim Academy will go live from 27 October. If you do not have access to the internet or email please ensure that the Swim Academy co-ordinators are aware so that they can notify you via telephone when your child is ready to move and the options available.

Sign up Desks

From early October we will be running sign up desks at both sites which will be located in each reception area. Please ensure that you visit one of these desks to ensure we have the correct details for you so that you can register from home to use <https://leisure.nwleics.gov.uk/Homeportal>.

New Swimming Opportunities

With the introduction of the NWL Swim Academy you will also see the introduction of some fantastic new water based activities which include, Synchro and Swim and Save.

Frequently Asked Questions

Will my Direct Debit change?

There will be no change in the price of the NWL Swim Academy lesson prices however, as opposed to collecting the direct debits quarterly these will now be collected monthly. Your new monthly payments will start on 1 October and will then be claimed on the 1st of each following month. We will not be claiming 1 September direct debit which would have been for the old Course 4.

The new monthly prices will be - Junior: £17.20, Leisure Link: £12.92.

If your child swims on a Saturday, Monday or Tuesday then you will need to make a one off manual payment, per child, of Junior £4.30 or Leisure Link £3.23 to cover the lessons on Saturday 27, Monday 29 and Tuesday 30 September.

This payment is to cover the lesson that your children will have before the new direct debit is taken. PLEASE ENSURE THAT THIS PAYMENT IS MADE BEFORE 1 SEPTEMBER 2014.

If you have more than one child swimming with us then you will see a direct debit being claimed for each child. These changes will come into affect from 25 September 2014.

All lessons have to be pre-paid. If your payment fails then your child will automatically be removed from the teachers register and they will not be able to swim with their place being re-let.

How will my payments change being a manual payer?

If you currently pay manually you will have to purchase 12 swimming lessons at a time which will cost, until 1 January 2015, £51.60 or £38.76 if you are a Leisure Link member. Alternatively why not sign up to a direct debit and pay monthly £17.20 or £12.62 if you are a Leisure Link member.

You will be able to monitor how many lessons you have left online by visiting <https://leisure.nwleics.gov.uk/Homeportal>. Please note that your lessons will be used even if your child does not attend a lesson.

If your payment is not made then your child will automatically be removed from the teacher's register and they will not be able to swim and their place will be given to another child.

What criteria will my child be assessed against?

The criteria that your child follows during their lessons will also be changing as they will now be assessed against the **ASA National Plan**. This change to the ASA National swim plan will also mean that the badges your child work towards will also change.

Will my child's class time change?

There may be the need to move a few classes but the Academy co-ordinators are working hard to keep these changes to a minimum. If your child will be affected by these then you will be informed by the end of August.

How do I cancel my child's swimming lesson?

If you wish to cancel your child's swimming lesson then you need to give four weeks notice to your NWL Swim Academy Co-ordinator so that we can cancel your direct debit and let you know when your lesson will be.

If you have any further questions then please feel free to contact your Academy co-ordinators by emailing nwlswimacademy@nwleicestershire.gov.uk

What Next

- 1) Fill in application form. If you place the white copy over the yellow then everything you write will transfer through to the yellow copy
- 2) Return the white copy to either Hermitage or Hood Park Leisure Centre receptions by 9 August 2014
- 3) Visit the HomePortal registration desk at either Hermitage or Hood Park Leisure Centre early October 2014