

Stay Swim Safe

For every young child that drowns in a pool, approximately five are hospitalised due to immersion injuries. Some of these children will suffer lifelong effects.



Always **STAY** close to kids in the pool

Effective pool safety depends on the vigilance of parents and carers supervising young children around pools at all times.



Start **SWIM**ming lessons

Many parents start swimming lessons out of concern for their child's water safety. Swimming lessons are never a substitute for supervision, but learning how to swim does reduce the possibility of drowning.



Keep and maintain a **SAFE** pool fence

It is important to make sure that your pool gate always self-closes and self-latches and that you check your pool fence to ensure it complies. For more information on pool fencing laws, visit www.hpw.qld.gov.au or contact your local council.

Improve your pool safety by following these tips:

- Supervise children at all times when near, on, or around swimming pools – many immersions happen in the few seconds that parents are distracted.
- Be ready before going swimming e.g. towels, dry clothes mobile/cordless phone or answering machine on etc.
- Do not leave a child alone or in the care of an older child when around the water.
- Ensure child is within arms' reach.
- Be prepared to get wet in case of an emergency.
- Display a cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR) sign and attend a CPR first aid course.
- Teach your children to swim but be aware that swimming instruction alone is not a guarantee against drowning.
- Complete the 'Does your pool pass the test?' checklist available at www.hpw.qld.gov.au or the Queensland Building and Construction Commission's Pool Safety Compliance Checklist on www.qbcc.qld.gov.au/pool-checklist.
- Maintain your pool fence and pool gate latches.
- Ensure the gate self-closes and the latch closes automatically.
- Do not tie back your pool gate or obstruct the latch from closing automatically.
- Regularly check your fence for damage and ensure objects near the fence (such as trees and furniture) do not enable a child to climb over the fence.
- For more information about pool safety laws call the Queensland Building and Construction Commission on **139 333** or visit their website www.qbcc.qld.gov.au.