

## **GUIDELINES ON CHILDREN ATTENDING CENTRES UNACCOMPANIED**

Swimming clubs are often based in multi-use publicly accessed facilities, which may limit the control the club has over children coming to the centre alone, playing alone or with another child, without any adult supervisor. Clubs should try to minimise potential problems involving unaccompanied children.

Advice for clubs regarding unaccompanied children:

- Make all club members aware of the minimum age restrictions on when a young person can attend the venue without adult supervision, including at what age can another young person be in charge of a child that requires supervision
- Private clubs where possible should have procedures in place for children to register in and out. This helps to ensure that the club are aware when children are on the premises
- Unaccompanied attendance and departure by children should be covered in the clubs Activity, Transport Permission Form.
- Parents/Carers should be made aware that the swimming club is not responsible for providing adult supervision of children out with regular club organised activities e.g. formal coaching, meets, competitions etc.
- If clubs are concerned that a young person's behaviour, when unaccompanied, is placing them at risk or causing a nuisance in the venue, then the parents should be informed and a warning given using the code of conduct guidelines ( See Appendices 9A – 9G )
- If a club is concerned about the amount of time a young person is spending unaccompanied at the venue, this concern should be reported to the Club Wellbeing & Protection Officer, as this may be an indicator that the young person is experiencing problems or being neglected