

Water Safety Advice

Never leave children unattended near water!

Babies and small children mostly drown at home; in the bath or outside in a paddling pool hot tub or pond. Very young children do not make a noise when they drown – they cannot shout for help and will slip silently under the surface.



Older children may also get into difficulty by thinking they are a stronger swimmer than they are. If they are at the beach, tides and currents can make swimming in the sea dangerous and there are less lifeguards on beaches due to the recent lockdown. Children can also drift out to sea on inflatables. Teach older children where to swim safely and what dangers to look out for.

Always empty paddling pools after use and remember that ponds can be easily accessed by children exploring their surroundings – if you visit a friend be sure to check the garden for any dangers.

Baby bath seats are not a safety aid. Never leave your baby unattended in the bath even for just a moment. Make sure you have everything you need **before you put your child in the bath** including a towel and nappy, etc.

Don't rely on other children to watch younger children in the bath – they may not know the dangers even in just a few centimetres of water.



Many families have hot tubs in their gardens or visit friends who have one. **Never leave a hot tub with the lid off** and always replace the cover even if you are going inside for just a short amount of time. Babies and young children are naturally inquisitive and can easily climb in to explore.