

Home Pool Safety

Watch it. Check it. Get safe.

Q. Why do drownings happen in home swimming pools?

A. Pools are close to a home and the child's natural curiosity brings them into contact with the pool. We see on average one child drowning/near drowning in Jersey home pools yearly.

Q. How do children get into the home swimming pool?

A. Usually through a house door or walking through a garden into a neighbours pool. Toddlers often fall into pools or go in voluntarily trying to reach toys or walk on top of pool covers. Children aged 5 and under are most at risk.

Q. Will I hear the child calling for help when drowning?

A. No. Evidence shows that on average a child who has drowned was missing usually less than 5 minutes and no one heard a splash, even when the adult was by the poolside.

Pool Safety Code

1. It begins with YOU!

Pool safety starts with you. Constant adult supervision for younger children with limited distractions that may interfere with supervision is needed.
Know first aid, especially CPR and teach your kids to swim.

2. Inside your home

Have a clear view of the pool from your house. Access to exterior doors should be limited to adults, with child proof locks on doors and windows.

3. Outside your home

Secure the pool area with a 4 sided safety fence with a self-closing self-latching gate. Keep the fence clear of furniture, kids love to climb.

4. The pool area

Keep toys and pool aids out of the pool and store securely away out of view. Ensure drains, suction and fittings have grates and covers to prevent body or hair entrapment. Store pool chemicals in a locked cupboard.