

MEDIA RELEASE

6 October 2022

LEARN TO SWIM PROGRAM AT THE HUONVILLE POOL

As the warmer weather approaches and we seek refreshment in our cool waters, it is time to remind ourselves of the potential dangers of drowning, Acting Mayor Sally Doyle said.

"Living in this part of the island we are surrounded by various bodies of water. While it is a privilege to have easy access to beaches, dams, rivers and pools, we all need to be cautious."

According to statistics from Royal Life Saving Australia, 22 children aged 0-4 years drown each year on average in Australia. Just over half of these drownings happen in pools and over three quarters occur due to a fall. Children aged one to two years old are at the greatest risk of drowning.

"Learning how to swim is an essential life skill and potentially a lifesaving one. Swimming lessons teach awareness in and around the water and help to prevent accidents by teaching water safety skills and building confidence. A foundation is built for a lifetime of enjoyment of water-based sports and leisure activities," Acting Mayor Doyle said.

The Huonville Swimming Pool will open its gates on 29 October with its traditional free open day. The pool offers an extensive Learn to Swim Program that will run throughout the entire summer season.

Acting Mayor Doyle encouraged members of the community to come and build their confidence in the water.

"Classes are taught by accredited AUSTSWIM instructors who can accommodate all levels of ability, skill and confidence, from water familiarisation for beginners through to stroke correction for advanced swimmers."

Swimming lessons will begin on 7 November and will continue through until March. Please visit our website for our upcoming learn to swim programs www.huonvalley.tas.gov.au

To enrol in swimming lessons, please call the pool office on 6264 1279 or mobile 0417 791 372.



The pool will be open seven days a week until Sunday 2 April 2023 and will be open every day except Christmas Day.

The Huonville Swimming Pool supports Ticket to Play subsidies. Eligible families can apply online for a voucher- Apply for a voucher | Ticket to Play (stategrowth.tas.gov.au).

Follow the Huonville Swimming Pool on Facebook and the council website (<u>Huonville Swimming Pool - Huon Valley Council Huon Valley Council</u>) to stay up to date on any pool activity related news.

For more information: Acting Mayor Sally Doyle (03) 6264 0300