

Water Safety Information

With summer approaching, now is a great time to be aware of water safety, particularly for children and young people. On average around 328 people a year accidentally drown around the UK, so please join us in supporting the national campaign by the [Royal Life Saving Society UK \(RLSS UK\)](#) and promote the latest water safety messages to keep children, young people and families safe this summer. Drowning is preventable, and with a little knowledge and awareness can be avoided.

Our **key message**: Always supervise children in and around water.

Whether at home or out and about, follow these top tips from RoSPA and RLSS:

At home

These tips may be particularly useful for families with young children:

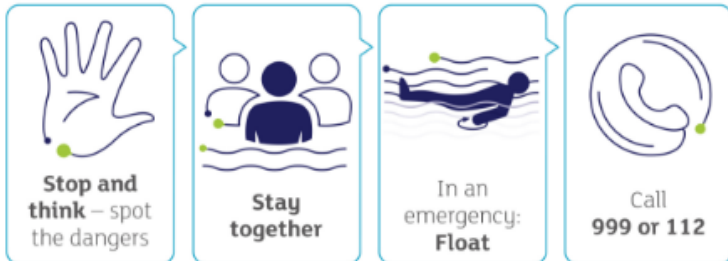
- Vigilance, supervision, and knowledge of how to help are critical, so start by identifying locations and situations that will cause harm
- Empty paddling pools as soon as they have been used and always turn paddling pools upside down once empty
- Always supervise your children around water, including bath time (never leave children unattended)
- Always use gates, fences, and locks to prevent children from gaining access to pools of water (swimming pools, ponds, any bodies of water at home)
- Securely cover all water storage tanks and drains
- Make sure products you've purchased are fit for purpose and explain any risks

Out and About

- Check water sites for hazards, check the safest places to swim and always read the signs
- Understand a child's swimming abilities and confidence in water and always supervise young or less able children in and around water
- Create a safety plan with teenagers who may be out unsupervised around water
- Never swim in the sea when the red flag is flying
- Inflatable dinghies or lilos are a well-known hazard – do not use them in open water

Always follow the water safety code:

Water Safety Code



FREE water safety resources

WSCC Summer Safety: [Keeping safe this summer - West Sussex County Council](#)

RLSS water safety at home: [Splash Safety at Your Pad - Water Safety at Home](#)

RLSS water safety: <https://www.rlss.org.uk/Pages/Category/water-safety-information>

RoSPA water safety: <https://www.rospa.com/water-safety>

[Top Five Beach Safety Tips for family safety \(RNLI\)](#)

[Float To Live – What To Do In An Emergency – RNLI](#)

Coastal Safety [HM Coastguard UK | To search, to rescue, to save](#)

Resources for Schools/clubs

[Water safety \(pshe-association.org.uk\)](http://pshe-association.org.uk)

[Schools/community groups, Leisure Centre/Swimming clubs and SEND education resources \(RLSS\)](#)

Suggested social media posts.

Does your child know how to stay safe around water? Give children the skills to enjoy a lifetime of fun in the water with the Royal Life Saving Society UK's free water safety resources – [Water Safety Advice \(rlss.org.uk\)](http://rlss.org.uk) #EnjoyWaterSafely

Follow the Code! Children are naturally curious and often drawn to water, so always supervise your child in and around water and follow the Water Safety Code - [The Water Safety Code \(rlss.org.uk\)](http://rlss.org.uk) #EnjoyWaterSafely