Dear Parents:

Welcome to the Gleason Family YMCA Swimming Program! Our swim lesson program is designed to help build a lifelong interest in swimming for fitness, challenge young minds and provide role models for children to use in determining their own values. This program has five components: stroke development, water sports and games, personal safety, rescue and personal growth. Our goal is for children to develop a love for the water and an understanding of all basic swimming components.

To help us run a high quality program, please note the following policies and guidelines:

• PLEASE CONTACT YOUR CHILD’S INSTRUCTOR WITH ANY QUESTIONS REGARDING THIS LETTER.
• We believe that communication is vital! Should you have questions regarding your child’s lesson, please let us know at an appropriate time (before/after class), not during the child’s lesson, so that we may fully address any concerns.
• Swimming Instructors may come to you to share concerns or excitement about your child’s progress. This is in an effort to celebrate your child’s success or to engage your assistance with any difficulties they may be having with your child. Your help reinforcing the lessons learned in class will provide consistency in your child’s experience and allow them to retain the information longer. Thank you in advance for your help.
• All children not toilet trained must wear a swim diaper during class.
• Be sure children go to the bathroom and shower before class.
• No street shoes/footwear may be worn on the pool deck. We ask that you leave your shoes in the entryway against the walls or carry them with you. Pool appropriate footwear only please!
• Posted rules must be observed by both participants and bystanders.
• Parents may observe class from the sides of the pool, against the walls only or from the bleacher seating. Please do not block the lifeguard’s view of the pool. Please do not interact with your child during their lesson; it can be a distraction and may interfere with the instructor’s teaching methods.
• We make every effort to provide consistency in instructors. Please understand if we need to make an occasional change.
• Swim lesson participants may enter the water with instructors only.
• Swim lesson participants should not swim before lesson time in order to be rested for the lesson. Swim lesson participants may only swim after class with instructor and parent permission; this is based on class performance and the availability of pool space.
• All pool rules are in effect during our swim lesson programs. Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns regarding our safety procedures. Please note that safety is our first consideration in your child’s aquatic experience.

We encourage you to communicate with your child’s instructor when possible, as this will enable you to know how your child is progressing. Due to our back-to-back lesson format, speaking with the instructor right before or after class may be difficult. In this case, we ask that you please leave your contact information (name, phone #, email, child’s name & your concern) with our front desk staff and the instructor will call or email you as soon as possible. Please realize that it is not unusual for a child to spend multiple sessions in one level before moving up.

If you have questions or comments, please feel free to contact me at your convenience. Thank you for your interest in our swim program and your cooperation. Have fun, be healthy!

Melissa A. Dyer, Aquatic Director
The Gleason Family YMCA, 33 Charge Pond Road, Wareham MA 02571 508.295.9622 x27
mdyer@ymcasouthcoast.org