

HAND IT OVER...

Teaching Transition Between Parents



At Oceanic Waterbabies, we want families to have a positive experience swimming with us, one that will enable parents to become the best teacher for their child and give them a love of water for life.

The well-being of children in our program is a priority, so anything that will potentially affect a child's swimming experience is important to address.

Our policies have evolved from 25 years of teaching parents and babies to swim and in our experience, changing swimming parents without an adequate handover can affect a child's learning, their progress and wellbeing.

As situations at home can change around work and commitments, this may lead to a need for parents to swap teaching roles as the swimming parent with their child. We therefore want to support parents, babies and their teachers with the smoothest transition possible.

Handover procedure:

- In the Waterbabies program, parents are responsible to maintain teaching consistency with their child. If there needs to be a change in the teaching role, **please notify the office and let us know what you need and** we will also send you a link to our pre-requisite Introductory seminar.
- **Our online seminar** is essential for parents transitioning teaching roles with children of any age/ stage in the program. The technical side of Teaching your baby to swim is only one aspect requiring understanding and our seminar presents information about program philosophy, facts, research and submersion to provide families with an important foundation to begin swimming with their children.
- **The handover** will involve both parents (or parent & care giver) in the water together over a period of 2 – 4 lessons to assist each other in learning holds, techniques and *especially* submersion.
 - ⇒ We start with the current swimming parent doing all the handling, explaining the different holds while the other parent listens, observes above and underwater and gets in tune with their child's body language and breathing rhythms. The parent learning will have access to our doll to practice techniques during the class.
 - ⇒ The parent learning will then start handling their child during songs and different activities while the swimming parent continues to manage submersion.
 - ⇒ Final transition involves a complete handover, while the exiting parent observes, helps and corrects technique as necessary.
 - ⇒ Readiness within this 2-4 lesson period to "handover", is assessed by the teacher and communicated to both parents and the office.

When parents help each other in class, the transition is smoother for the child and the teacher is able to keep the lesson plan flowing and introduce new skills to the group as needed. The progress and pace of the class can continue without disruption and everyone gets what they need.

Thank you, we really appreciate your understanding and cooperation.

Awareness Happiness Harmony

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