

Girls Inc of Worcester

Camp Kinneywood Swim Policy

Swimming and Boating are integral parts of our summer camp. If your child does not like swimming in anything but pools, then the Winthrop House program is more suitable.

Swim lessons are mandatory for all campers unless they have a medical reason, which does not allow them to swim. Our policy is that if the child does not take swim lesson in the morning then they are not eligible for a dip in the afternoon. For many young people this is the only opportunity they have to participate in structure lessons. We are finding many children who want to play in the water but not have a lesson. Because we offer open water and boating, it is essential that all youth have basic water safety skills.

The swim lessons are for ½ hour a day. If your child cannot swim because they are ill, then please send them with a note. They will be expected to sit on the waterfront and watch their lesson, so they do not fall too far behind.

Another issue we seem to have questions about is “Where or what lane does your child swim in”. Many young people have had lessons in pools and are moved into the deeper water for lessons and free swim but when they come to camp, they find that they are put into a lower lane. The reason for this is that we are a pond not a pool. In the pool, they only have to swim a few strokes before touching the side to hold on. Whereas at camp, there are not 4 sides to hold on to, so they must be stronger swimmers. We ask that you be a little understanding of this and that you help to explain this to your child.

If you and or your child should feel uncomfortable with this policy, then I encourage you to talk with me and or seek alternate programming at our other sites.