



## WATER SAFETY AT HOME

With Government guidance telling us to stay at home and holiday opportunities unlikely for 2020, people are inevitably spending more time in their homes and gardens, and when the temperatures rise, they're enjoying paddling pools, hot tubs and residential swimming pools.

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### Did you know that a baby can drown in as little as 2cm of water?

Around 700 people drown in the UK and Ireland every year and many more suffer injury, some life-changing, through non-fatal experiences. More people die from drowning in the UK and Ireland than from domestic fires or cycling accidents.

Drownings around the home are easily preventable so we've created these easy-to-follow tips to make sure that you and your loved ones can enjoy water safely, at home.

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### Guide to water safety at home

#### In the garden

- Never leave your child unattended around water. Babies can drown in as little as 2cm of water
- Watch kids when they are in or around water, without being distracted
- Keep young children within arm's reach of an adult



- Securely cover all water storage tanks and drains
- Empty paddling pools, containers, buckets and watering cans, as soon as they have been used
- Always turn paddling pools and containers upside down once empty, so they do not collect water
- Securely cover all hot tubs and home spas as soon as possible after use
- Make sure older children are accompanied every time when they swim or use hot tubs
- Always install self-closing and self-latching gates, fences of at least four feet tall surrounding all sides of any pool, and locks to prevent children from gaining access to home pools or pools of water
- Install secure fencing around garden ponds (at least four feet high) to act as a barrier or add mesh or a grill on top of the pond (strong enough to support a child's weight without dropping below the surface of the pond water)
- Always turn hosepipes off at the tap, so children cannot fill vessels themselves



## Indoors

- Always supervise bath time (never leave children unattended)
- Empty the bath as soon as possible after use
- Close toilet lids and use toilet seat locks to prevent drowning
- Keep doors to bathrooms and utility rooms closed
- Vulnerable adults and people who suffer from sudden seizures should consider using showers rather than baths