



My message to the Council about why I need a warm water pool

My name is Alexander, I am 10 Years old. I was born with a painful form of dwarfism that affects my bones and joints. Most of the time I have to move around in my wheelchair.

I would love to be able to run around or play football or cricket with all my friends at school but I can't, this makes me feel very sad.

I wanted to learn to swim with my friends at our local pool but the water was too cold and made my legs really hurt.

I started to go to the Get Wet Set swimming lessons in the hydrotherapy pool at Three Ways school, the water was nice and warm and made my joints less achy, it took a long time but I also learnt to swim really well Hooray!

I would love to be able to go swimming with my friends but the water in our local pools is too cold. I can use the learner pool at Longwell Green, Bristol but I'm 10 now and usually it's filled with babies and much younger children. In a couple of years I won't even be able to swim there.

I can't really join in with most sports, I couldn't even do wheelchair basketball because my arms are really short; but when I'm in the water I'm like a fish, I'm the same as everyone else in the water. It's the only proper exercise I get.

I would love to be able to swim in a normal pool like my friends do.

I hate to think that after trying so hard to learn to swim that I won't be able to swim anymore when I'm a man, just because the water is not a little bit warmer.

I love swimming please please help us turn the heat up!!

Alexander Jones- Grech
From Bath Swim Therapy