



Award winning swimming school saves local pool!

Brighton Swimming School has just signed a deal to run the former Roedean Junior School swimming pool in Eastern Road, Brighton.

Now renamed the Brighton Swimming Centre, it is open to local schools and community groups.

The future of the pool became very uncertain when St Mary's Hall School, the pool's original owners, merged with Roedean School in 2009. Fortunately, Brighton Swimming School (who have run swimming lessons at the site for 20 years) were able to step in and give it a secure future.

Paul Smith, managing director of Brighton Swimming School said: "We are absolutely delighted to have taken over this large swimming pool and as we are managing it 24/7, we want local schools and community groups to come forward and make the most of its facilities.

"We have already redecorated the changing rooms and converted some of its classroom to modern training rooms – it's a very exciting opportunity for both us and the community."

The Brighton Swimming Centre will be expanding its programme of swimming lessons for children including parent and child classes as well as using the pool as a base for an expansion of its award winning Pool to Pier swimming programme for adults.

The Pool to Pier programme is Brighton's first open water swimming programme, developing competent pool swimmers into confident sea swimmers. The goal of the training is to complete a swim either around Brighton pier, or from Brighton Pier to the West Pier and was winner of the Sussex Business Awards 2010 *Innovation in Business Award*

"Rebuilding the links between the city and sea is very important for us," continued Paul Smith. "We want to use the pool to encourage as many people as possible to feel confident about swimming in the sea and make the most of what I feel is a very underused resource."

The pool is also a major centre for the training of swimming teachers and is looking to increase the number of courses it can now operate throughout the year.

Anyone wishing to find out more about swimming lessons, the Pool to Pier sea-swimming programme or to hire the pool or its training rooms should contact the Brighton Swimming Centre manager Sonja Hulson on 01273 425745 or email sonja@brightonswimmingschool.com

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