# Bude Nippers Application Form

Bude Nippers is part of Bude Surf Life Saving Club and is open to children between the ages of 7 and 11. The Club aims to teach children the basics of surf awareness and beach safety, leading to membership of the junior section of the Surf Club. While the aim of the Club is very serious, the approach is to make the sessions great fun for the members.

From November to Easter Surf Nippers meet at Splash on Thursday evenings; these sessions are aimed at improving the members’ board paddling skills and team working skills. From May to September the Club meets on Thursday evenings at The Bude Surf Life Saving Club House (Crooklets Beach) to train on the sand, in the surf and in the sea pool. Please note that it is a requirement of the club that *parents/carers remain on the beach in case their child needs them*. Wetsuits are strongly recommended for the summer season; advice on the type of wetsuit and information about second-hand suits is available from the Club coaches.

Safety is the clubs number one priority and the children are supervised by adults at all times in the water and only go in to the sea if it is safe. All of the adult coaches are members of the Surf Life Saving Clubs with many years of experience on Bude’s beaches and as a minimum, all lead coaches are Level 1 SLS coaches.

The Club is not here to teach children to swim and **all children must pass a swimming test before becoming a Nipper.** This will involve a 50m swim in an indoor pool and a swim across the length of Bude Sea Pool. Showing a proper front crawl stroke with their head in the water. **It is the expectation of the club that children continue swimming lessons while in Nippers as they will require a high competency level and swimming strength for sea swimming.** Parents will be informed when their child reaches the top of the waiting list and if the child is unable to complete the test, they will be given one more chance at a later date.

There is a limit to the number of children the Club can accommodate and there is a long waiting list. With so many children waiting to join Nippers, existing members are expected to attend 75% of the winter and summer sessions. The Club reserves the right to cease the membership of any child who does not meet the 75% attendance requirement and/or does not have an acceptable reason for non-attendance.

To put your child on the waiting list for Surf Nippers please email us the details below. Please **only** send the form in the calendar year that your child turns 5year old. Entry to the Club is strictly on a “first come first served” basis. New member intakes occur at least once a year, depending on the number of existing members; children at the top of the list will be contacted by email. It is the responsibility of the parents to inform the Club of any changes of email address, address or phone numbers. **All parents are also responsible for contacting the club each year, by email, before the 31st March to let us know you are still interested in staying on the list.** If the club cannot contact a child, they will lose their place in the queue. If you are contacted and wish to defer your child, this can be done only once. Your child will then go to the bottom of the list if they wish to try again.

Please send the information below for the attention of The Secretary to budeslsc.nippers@gmail.com. You will be sent an e-mail confirming your child’s place on the waiting list.

Childs Name:

Date of Birth:

Address:

Tel Number:

Mobile:

Parent/Guardians Name:

Email Address’: