

Pool Barrier Inspection Information

Residential pools that are filled or partly filled with water must have physical barriers that restrict access by unsupervised children under five years of age.

To prepare for a pool barrier inspection, owners should check and consider the following:



Gates, hinges and latches

- ✓ are maintained and fixed if faulty
- ✓ cannot be readily opened by children
- ✓ open away from the pool and clear of obstructions
- ✓ have a maximum clearance of 100mm below gate
- ✓ cannot be removed from hinges



Self-closers

- ✓ are maintained and fixed if faulty
- ✓ automatically close the gate and require manual operation to release it
- ✓ are positioned so a child outside the pool area cannot reach it (or use a thin implement to access it)



Barriers

- ✓ are maintained and fixed if faulty
- ✓ are securely fixed in place (sustaining a force of 25kg without failing)
- ✓ are a minimum of 1200mm high (1800mm on boundary)
- ✓ have a maximum of 100mm per opening/gap



Window latches to pool area

- ✓ are maintained and fixed if faulty
- ✓ have maximum 100mm opening



Clearance distances

- ✓ gates and barriers have 1200mm of space from any climbable object or place

The above list is only designed as a general guide and is not exhaustive. If you're looking for more information on this topic, check out the Ministry of Business, Innovation and Employment's [safety guidance for pool owners](#) website and Queenstown Lakes District Council's [guidance on residential swimming and spa pools](#).