



HEAD COACH

Abingdon Vale Swimming Club

Contract Type: Self Employed

Location: Abingdon, Oxfordshire

Abingdon Vale Swimming Club (AVSC) in Oxfordshire is looking for an inspiring and experienced Head Coach to start as soon as reasonably possible. The successful candidate will be responsible for leading and developing our competitive swimming programme.

We are a friendly and ambitious SwimMark-accredited club with 180 swimmers from ages 8-26 with an Academy and eight competitive squads. Our swimmers have a strong history of successfully competing in open meets including County, Regional, National and British championships; and a variety of regional leagues and galas, including the West Midlands Premier division of the Arena League and Thames Valley Junior League. Our swimmer's progression is also aided with a regular Club Champs programme.

The coaching team comprises of 10 regular qualified coaches, including those with expertise in open water and land training. They are supported by an enthusiastic and pro-active Committee. We are based primarily at Abingdon School, Oxfordshire with excellent pool facilities, with the performance squads training regularly at long course pools further afield in the build-up to major competitions. More details about the club can be found on our website: <https://www.avsc.co.uk>

Key Responsibilities:

- Lead and develop a comprehensive training and competition programme tailored to individual swimmers and squads that aligns with the goals of the Club
- Running the training programme of National Performance squad with clear instructions and constructive feedback
- Attend appropriate competitions/galas, training camps and delegating relevant responsibilities to the supporting coaching staff, team managers and other volunteers.
- Oversee the selection and preparation of swimmers for competitions at all levels
- Contribute to the coaching support of swimmers at competitions
- Monitor swimmer's progress in all squads and coordinate squad movements in conjunction with other coaches
- Foster a positive, respectful and inclusive team culture
- Mentor, collaborate and have regular meetings with the coaching team to ensure the club's training programme is implemented consistently across all squads.
- Communicate with athletes, parents, volunteers and committee members on a regular basis
- Liaise with other clubs on combined training programmes, and galas
- Be a positive role model, maintaining high ethical and moral standards and adhere to Swim England's and the Club's Code of Conduct
- Ensure compliance with Swim England policies, including Wavepower

- Engage with the Club committee and membership in setting the direction of the Club

Qualifications and Experience:

- An ideal Candidate will have Level 3 Swim England Swimming Coach Certificate/ASA or Level 2 Coaching Certificate with proven experience of coaching National Squads
- Proven experience in developing swimmers through to County, Regional and National levels
- Experience/qualifications in land-based strength and conditioning
- Safeguarding training and continuing professional development to meet current Swim England requirements
- Enhanced DBS with barring check and right to work in the UK
- Qualified first aider or prepared to undertake the relevant first aid course
- A full driving licence to reach required training and competition locations

Personal qualities:

- Ability to lead the development plan and engage with all members of the Club with enthusiasm and ambition
- A passion for motivating and inspiring young athletes to reach their full potential
- A commitment to promote the values of sportsmanship and teamwork
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills to liaise with diverse stakeholders

To Apply:

Please send your CV with a covering email/letter outlining your interest in the role and the names and contact details of two professional references to chairman@avsc.co.uk.

Offers of appointment are subject to satisfactory references and DBS clearance.