

The Ian Robinson Sports Centre

Merchant Taylors' Schools
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Sports Centre Manager: Mr J Coombes

IAN ROBINSON
SPORTS CENTRE
at Merchant Taylors'



**MERCHANT
TAYLORS'
SCHOOLS**

For Boys and Girls
aged 4 to 18 years

April 3, 2019

Dear Sir / Madam,

On Friday 31st March 2019, it was announced by the Headmaster of Merchant Taylors' Senior Boys' School that following a detailed review of the condition of the pool, the pool will not reopen in its current form.

The pool was built in 1978, given its age, design and the scale of the issues, the key infrastructure is now at a point that it can no longer be maintained.

A planning process is now underway to consider the development of a new swimming pool and an update on this will be provided after the Easter break.

As a result, some of the membership types managed by the Ian Robinson Sports Centre will be affected in the following ways:

Merchant Taylors' Swimming Lessons, Public Swim, Family Swim, and all Ex-John Harrison Swim: These membership types will be fully cancelled. You are advised to also cancel your Direct Debit instruction (normally 8 digits) with your bank.

Combined: This will be converted to a Fitness Suite membership at £16.50 pcm unless we are otherwise informed.

Family Combined: This will be converted into 2 adult Fitness Suite memberships at £16.50 each (total: £33.00 pcm) unless otherwise informed.

6 Month and Annual: A pro rata refund amount up to Thursday 17th January 2019 (the last session prior to the closure) will be issued on a request only basis. Please include full payment information within each request and submit to Swimmingpool@merchanttaylors.com before 31st May 2019.

The last couple of months have been a difficult time for everyone involved. All the emails that were received to the dedicated Swimming Pool email account were read with consideration and passed onto the relevant personnel within the school. Some may not have been acted upon as yet as it was considered sensible to await the final outcome of the consultation period. However, we are now in a position to respond appropriately to each one and shall be doing so over the next few days. During the last two months all affected staff have been through a confidential and sensitive consultation period and this has in part limited our ability to make formal announcements.

It is an exciting prospect that a swimming pool development is being seriously considered and I look forward to sharing more news on this subject as soon as is practically possible.

If your child attends Merchant Taylors' and you have any thoughts in regards to the provision of swimming provision in the future you are kindly advised to contact the school's Headteacher.

I have personally been involved in managing the operations within the pool since 2013 and whilst the building itself was not the most glamorous, no one can argue with the outstanding provision it delivered throughout almost 80 hours per week. I am grateful to each person who worked, swam or acted as a spectator within the pool and I would like to invite you all to a small gathering with refreshments on **Thursday 2nd May 2019, 4.30 – 5.30pm in PE2 of the Ian Robinson Sports Centre.**

Yours faithfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Joe Coombes', written over a faint horizontal line.

Joe Coombes

Ian Robinson Sports Centre Manager & Development Officer