



TOWN OF VINCENT

MEDIA RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Beatty Park Introduces the Angelfish Programme

The Town of Vincent is pleased to announce that Beatty Park Leisure Centre has introduced a specialised learn to swim programme for people with disabilities – the [Angelfish Programme](#).

"Australia has a culture focused on the water, water sports and outdoor pursuits. With this in mind everyone is encouraged to learn to swim whether it be for recreation, for health or simply for safety's sake. Beatty Park plays a major role in swimming education in the State and the Swim School is committed to providing learn to swim classes for all children and adults – including those with special needs. For many people with disabilities swimming provides their only means of physical activity. And learning to swim can provide the opportunity to participate in a variety of aquatic activities", said Mayor Nick Catania.

As the recent recipient of funding through Healthway's Expanding Physical Activity Opportunities for People with Disabilities programme, the Beatty Park Swim School has launched the Angelfish learn to swim classes for people with disabilities.

The Angelfish Programme accommodates students with disabilities from six months of age through to adults with the focus on integration into mainstream classes.

Initially tuition is offered on a 1:1 or 1:2 ratio. The instructor then assesses readiness for participation in a mainstream class. Integration is achieved gradually with the assistance of the student's personal instructor who remains with the student throughout this process.

This project is supported by Healthway, the Premier's Physical Activity Taskforce and the Disability Services Commission. With the assistance of [Healthway](#) funding, these classes are offered at a subsidised rate.

"Over fifty Angelfish are currently enrolled in the programme and I am told they are thoroughly enjoying their classes. This is a wonderful opportunity for all our Angelfish to not only learn essential swimming skills but to also have fun making friends and interacting with their peers. This is a great programme and I encourage all those with disabilities to look at enrolling in the classes", concluded Mayor Catania.

Beatty Park Swim School has several fully-trained special needs teachers and has appointed an Angelfish Co-ordinator to liaise with parents and health professionals.

Beatty Park Leisure Centre is one of the largest aquatic centres in Western Australia and has accessibility for the physically impaired as well as a variety of aquatic environments to suit everyone. The classes cater for all disabilities and the Swim School has a large selection of equipment and resources available.

Further information can be obtained from [Beatty Park Leisure Centre](#) on 9273 6080.

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