



Getting kids into the swim

JANE WHITFORD

THE Smith Family has teamed up with State Swim to help local disadvantaged children learn to swim.

The swim school has donated a year of free swimming lessons to 34 children in the Onkaparinga district.

State Swim managing director **Paul Mason** said learning to swim was a "rite of passage" for every Australian child.

"State Swim has always been a strong advocate of the importance of children learning to swim, not only from a safety perspective but also in terms of developing their self-

confidence, fitness and wellbeing," he said.

Richard Melvill from The Smith Family, said he was grateful for the \$200,000 sponsorship.

O'Sullivan Beach mum **Belinda Duffield** said the free lessons for sons **Mason**, 7, and **Dellius**, 9, had been a "huge help".

"We've always had a hassle with being able to afford swimming lessons because we have six children," she said.

"They are really enjoying it and it means we can now pay for lessons for our youngest child."



DEEP END: Dellius and Mason splash out.