



## **Coronavirus (Covid-19) Pool Operating Plan**

**Last Updated:** 20<sup>th</sup> July 2020

Using guidance from the Government, Swim England, ASA, STA, PWTAG, World Health Organisation and NHS to ensure the risk assessment and health and safety policy is following the latest advice.

**NOTE: The guidance can change at any time and this document will be updated in accordance with this.**

Using these best practices in no way guarantees that the communicable disease, including but not limited to COVID-19 will not be present in the facility; that people actively infected with the communicable disease might be present in the facility nor does implementation of these best practices guarantee that a person or persons will not contract COVID-19 or other communicable diseases from persons or contact within a facility.

### **Lifesaving and First Aid:**

The preservation of human life will always take priority over social distancing, therefore, if a swimmer is in difficulty, the lifesaver / swimming teacher must respond quickly and where required.

### **Control Measures:**

The control measures that Holmewood House Swim School have implemented below will help minimise or eliminate the spread of COVID-19 and ensure the health and safety of all their workers and clients. This is a requirement under the Health and Safety At Work Act 1974.

### **Communication:**

All staff and clients will continue to be updated via email, telephone and/or social media regarding updates/changes to procedure, guidance or daily operations. Any issues or concerns that staff or clients have regarding the procedures or COVID-19 must be raised via email to [bstevens@holmewoodhouse.co.uk](mailto:bstevens@holmewoodhouse.co.uk).

### **Terms and Conditions:**

All terms and conditions listed below must be agreed to prior to entry to the facility. A signed copy of the terms and conditions must be returned to [bstevens@holmewoodhouse.co.uk](mailto:bstevens@holmewoodhouse.co.uk) prior to attending.

### **Terms and Conditions:**

- Do not come to the facility if you are showing any symptoms of Covid-19 (temperature, cough, difficulty breathing, or anosmia e.g. loss of taste or smell).
- Shower at home, pre and post swimming (This will help with maintain water quality and increase the effectiveness of chlorine as a disinfectant against COVID-19)
- Arrive at the pool ready to swim (there will be no access to the changing rooms) swimmers must come 'Beach Ready'. (The definition of beach ready can be found in the below).  
**NO EQUIPMENT CAN BE LENT (IE GOGGLES, COSTUMES, HATS, TOWELS ETC.)**
- Follow guidance markers and adhere to the 2m social distancing measures.
- Access to the pool via the entry/exit steps will be restricted to bathers who require assistance entering and exiting the water only. Bathers will be strongly encouraged otherwise to climb into and out of the pool from the side. A member of the same family can assist bathers entering and exiting the water.
- You will be required to arrive no earlier than 5 minutes prior to your allocated time frame. If you arrive early, please remain in your vehicle until the designated lesson time.
- Whilst at the swimming pool, social distancing, direction of travel and other risk control measures that are put in place must be adhered to.
- Do not make physical contact with other participants.
- Always attempt to maintain appropriate social distance between yourself and another swimmer.
- When you are resting or catching your breath, be mindful of others using the swimming pool. Keep yourself to the edge of the pool, turning your head away and allowing others to maintain social distance.

### **Recommendations:**

- Take hand sanitiser with you, there will be access to hand washing equipment on site.

### **Definitions:**

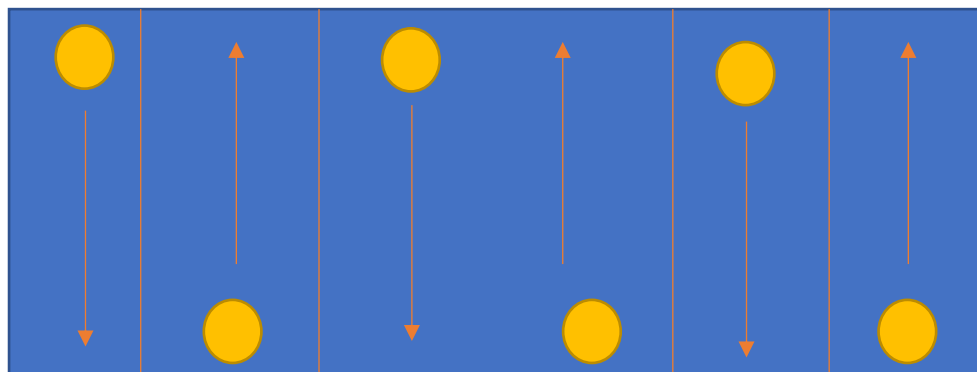
- **Beach Ready:** Turn up in swimming costume, no changing room access, shower before leaving home and depart in dry robe, dressing gown, onesie.

### **Swimming Lessons Operation:**

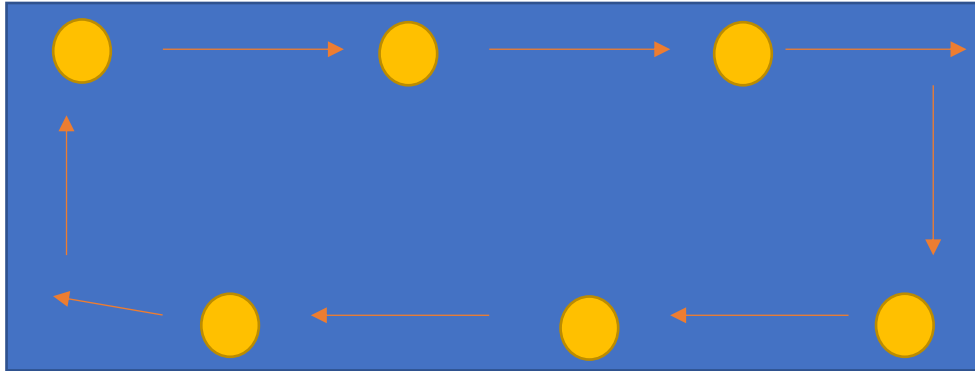
- Swimming teachers will deliver ALL lessons from poolside, unless essential assistance is required in the water. Teachers may ask a family member to enter the water to assist their child throughout the course of the lesson first (They will not be required a DBS Check as per Swim England Guidance), if no assistance is available the teacher can decide whether to enter the water or not (at their own risk)
- Teachers should remain at their designated teaching station for the duration of their shift, which will allow position to oversee the whole class, this may vary depending on ability of swimmers, group size and activities being performed.
- Swimmers will only be allowed entry to the pool side at their designated swimming lesson time and no earlier. A waiting area will be clearly marked out at the swimming pool (adhering to social distant measures). Please follow instruction from the Swim School staff.
- Avoid touching gates, fences, benches, etc. and wait in the designated waiting area whilst maintaining social distancing. Swimmers will come in through the shallow end fire exit when instructed. The Swim School staff will show the children where to go and wait for their session.
- Swimmers will arrive already changed and ready to swim. They will take their clothes/footwear off and put their items in their swimming bag on poolside in allocated baskets (swimming bags must be clearly marked).
- Swimmers will exit the pool without the use of steps. Swimmers will leave with a staggered approach and will be directed by the Swim School staff members.
- Swimmers must collect their belongings in the baskets and put their clothes/robes/onesies on top of their wet costumes then vacate the swimming pool area via the changing room doors.
- Swimmers will meet their parents by the shallow end fire exit doors. Please limit your time in this area and be as prompt as possible when leaving. Please ensure you are at the pick up point ready to collect your swimmer on time.
- Parents will need to park their cars in a car park space and collect the swimmers from the changing room entrance. Parents must stay in their cars during the lesson and the Swim School will call the number provided if there is any problems.
- Lessons will be allocated to pupils by the lesson coordinator / swimming teacher. Once they have been allocated a lesson time, this will be the swimmers designated 'POD'. In the event that a member of that POD falls ill, the swimming coordinator will request all members in that POD to isolate for 14 days as per government guidance. There will be no refund missed on lessons that isolation occurs.

- There will be a 5 minute time slot allocated between lessons to reduce chance of groups clustering and to allow the swimming teacher time to clean equipment used and the facility around to reduce risk of transmission.
- Equipment will be sanitised in the pool and appropriately cleaned between activities. Any equipment that cannot be sanitised in pool water will be cleaned with antibacterial spray and wipes. This will include surfaces in high traffic areas such as handrails on entry/exit and towel hooks.
- All swimming teachers will be required to set up equipment for each swimming area, ensure registers are taken and are accurate and encourage hand washing where possible.
- The Swim School supervisor that is running the session on that day will also act as a designated 'COVID LIASON'. (The Covid Liason will address any issues regarding the health and safety of swimmer's and spectators using the facility at any given point in time. Any issues that are addressed must be reported to the 'COVID LIASON OFFICER' to action further if required)
- The COVID LIASON OFFICER will stay up to date with central or local government recommendations and will adapt the rules and regulations regarding lessons if required and advised to by industry bodies and the government.
- All swimming lesson games will be individual and all equipment will be washed accordingly after every use. Swimmers will not be sharing equipment.
- Swimmers will remain in their allocated zone for duration of the lessons and will not be allowed to cross into other zones, unless advised by the designated lifesaver/teacher.
- Lessons will be structured in a way to limit contact time between groups and swimmers will be staggered from either side of the pool (See diagram below) throughout the course of the lesson to reduce contact time with each other.

### Beginners and Improvers



## Advanced Swimmers



### Swimming Lessons Key Information:

- There will be a bucket of chlorinated water available to rinse teaching areas and equipment after every lesson.
- There will be no parents watching the session.
- There will be NO loaning of Googles, Hats and other equipment. Hats will be available for purchase from the teacher.
- Swimmer / Parent will have to put on hat and googles prior to the start of the lesson (Swim School staff will be unable to do this)
- Swimmers must go to the toilet at home before starting the session. Toilets will be available if needed.

### Other:

- The NOP, EAP and PSOP will be revised in accordance with guidelines to accommodate changes made by the government and key industry bodies. This will be reviewed regularly.
- A full risk assessment for any COVID-19 changes will be performed prior to the delivery of swimming lessons.
- A guidance video will be created to inform and educate bathers and customers of the 'New Normal'.
- Clear markers on the floor will inform bathers as to what to do.
- Any bather or swimmer that wishes to use the facility that is considered 'high risk' or is 'shielding' should follow the medical guidance issued to them at all times.

- There will be pool posters, notices and signs located around the poolside to help guide bathers and users. This will assist in reinforcing pool rules and guidance.
- There will be hand sanitiser located at the entrance and exit to the swimming pool.
- Any equipment left on site will be binned.

**Pool Operations: (As per PWTAG TN46 – Chemical Parameters of Outdoor Pools)**

The following chemical levels should be maintained to increase the effects of chlorine on COVID-19

**Free chlorine – minimum 1.5mg/l**

**PH – 7.0**

The guiding principles of the document above (in accordance with government and industry advice are):

1. **Distance** – The greater the distance between bathers and people the lower level of risk
2. **Duration** - the shorter the duration (time) participants are in close proximity the lower level of risk of transmission
3. **Activity** – the way in which participants move during an activity will determine how you can control the above parameters.

**Maximum Bather Load:** 28 Swimmers (No more than 6m<sup>2</sup> per participant).