

## COVID-19 Educational Settings Risk Assessment - Swimming Pools

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Swimming pools can reopen from 25 July if they are ready to do so and can do so safely, following public health guidance.

The government has issued guidance to the [grassroots sport and leisure sector](#) that includes guidance on swimming pools and Swim England has issued '[Returning to Pools](#)' guidance including guidance for pool operators, swimming teachers and swimming clubs.

This risk assessment summarises the key messages from these guidance documents for schools as operators of pools. It highlights the continued requirements for safe social distancing and enhanced infection control regimes.

Headteachers of schools with swimming pools should also refer to guidance on pool plant, disinfection, water testing and technical operation - COVID-19 PWTAG Technical Notes on Re-opening a Pool and Technical Operation after COVID-19 Shutdown.

These should be read in conjunction with:

- COVID-19 Compliance code for all educational settings – September
- COVID 19 Educational Settings Risk Assessment – September - on the [Norfolk Schools website](#) and on HR InfoSpace

For ease of reference, changes that are made to this document are detailed below:

| <b>Date of change</b> | <b>Section, Page and Change</b>  |
|-----------------------|--|
| 17-07-2020            | New document. Please read.   |
| 26-08-2020            | Page 6 – requirement to review School risk assessment for hire during the school day<br><br>Page 7 – added that the school can obtain the hirers COVID-19 Secure Declaration or risk assessment. |

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| <b>School:</b>                  | Thomas Bullock CE Primary Academy |                     |
| <b>Assessment Date:</b>         | 7.6.21                            | <b>Review Date:</b> |
| <b>Assessment completed by:</b> | Caroline Greenland                |                     |

Please describe how you have met the required control measures in the 'Notes and further information' column.

| <b>Controls</b>   | <b>Yes/no/not applicable</b> | <b>Notes and further information</b> | <b>Date required and completed</b> |
|---|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------------------|
| <b>Managing Contact</b><br>To minimise contact with surfaces and other people within the pool facility or while participating in swimming activities. Primary control for minimising transmission through contact is by handwashing and sufficiently frequent cleaning and avoiding sharing of objects and equipment. |                              |                                      |                                    |
| Inform pool users about infection control requirements when visiting the premises prior to and on arrival, e.g. before classes and in entrance areas.   | N/A                          |                                      |                                    |
| Provide hand sanitiser stations at the entrance to the premises and depending on layout at other relevant points, e.g. spectator areas, changing rooms etc to encourage staff and pool users to wash their hands regularly.   | N/A                          |                                      |                                    |

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| Ensure had washing facilities in toilets and changing rooms are appropriate and adequately supplied with liquid soap and hand drying facilities.  | N/A |   |  |
| Consider improving hand washing facilities to the use of lever taps and more efficient hand dryer where necessary to encourage good hand hygiene practice   | N/A |   |  |
| Fixing doors open that can safely be left open where feasible.  | N/A |   |  |
| Consider use of electronic door openers connected to the fire alarm system for fire doors.  | N/A |   |  |
| Reduce the need to open lockers, storage compartments etc, by making essential equipment readily accessible.  | N/A | Children wearing trunks/costume under clothing and changing on pool side and placing bags on racks. |  |
| <b>Managing Capacity:</b><br>To ensure distancing by limiting the number of swimmers able to access the facilities. Maximum capacity should be based on the requirement for social distancing, nature of activities, equipment and configuration of facilities  |     |   |  |
| Calculate the maximum number of pool users that enable 2m distance to be maintained between users. Different numbers have been calculated for different activities, e.g. club training, lessons, aquarobics and for different parts of the facility - changing rooms, waiting areas, spectator areas etc (also see below for examples). | N/A |   |  |
| Maximum capacity of different areas is clearly marked, e.g. on changing room doors and inside changing rooms  | N/A |   |  |
| The use of changing rooms and showering facilities is avoided where possible, e.g. by requiring hirers to implement turn up ready to swim approaches.   | N/A | Children to change in cubicles after swimming.  |  |
| Where they are necessary, e.g. for school swimming, for people with disabilities, changing and shower facilities use will be managed to ensure they are used as quickly as possible maintaining distancing requirements, e.g. limiting showering, limiting numbers.   | N/A |   |  |

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| Additional time is allocated between hirers/different group uses to allow sufficient time to clean equipment and the facility between groups and to prevent waiting in groups.   | N/A |   |  |
| Spectator areas are either taken out of use or adapted to ensure social distancing is maintained.  | N/A |   |  |
| <b>Moving in and through swimming pool facilities</b>  |     |   |  |
| To ensure distancing among people moving around pool facilities  |     |   |  |
| Use signage and ground markings to indicate required social distance to allow controlled flows of people in all relevant areas including corridors, spectator areas, waiting areas, changing rooms etc.  | N/A | In line with pool Covid risk assessment |  |
| If there is more than one door, consider having one for entering the building and one for exiting.   | N/A | In line with pool Covid risk assessment |  |
| Introduce a one-way flow route through the building where possible, supported by signage.  | N/A | In line with pool Covid risk assessment |  |
| <b>Contact while using facilities</b>  |     |   |  |
| To ensure distancing among people using pools. Social distancing should be maintained between individuals, groups, teachers/instructors and coaches, unless users come from the same household, or to manage a disabled person's needs when additional mitigation will be required.  |     |   |  |
| <p>Pools should restrict numbers to allow 6 m2 per person for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• swimming lessons*</li> <li>• community lane swimming</li> <li>• open public swimming (families)</li> <li>• instructor-led community activities</li> </ul> <p>Open public swimming (for individuals), if carried out by clubs, should be restricted to allow 9 m2 per person.</p> | N/A | In line with pool Covid risk assessment |  |

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| * While travelling during a swimming lesson the proximity of swimmers as they pass each other is unavoidable. However, the duration of time involved is very low and the risk of transmission of infection is considered low enough to be acceptable.                        | N/A | We will be the only class in the pool. |  |
| Swimming teachers/instructors follow <a href="#">guidance from Swim England on adapting swimming lessons</a> to enable social distancing.  | N/A | In line with pool risk assessment      |  |
| Swimming teachers who provide safety cover for swimming lessons (where a lifeguard is not present) and may need to perform a rescue and/or give CPR/first aid follow <a href="#">guidance during COVID-19 from RLSS UK</a> and school staff follow NCC guidance on first aid | N/A | In line with pool risk assessment      |  |
| Teachers and assistants should deliver from the poolside; assistants should position themselves opposite the Level 2 teacher to reinforce class management of social distancing.   |     | In line with pool risk assessment      |  |
| Where possible teachers should remain in the same teaching station for the duration of their shift and aim to use the same equipment throughout to reduce the likelihood of cross contamination.   |     | In line with pool risk assessment      |  |
| Teachers should prioritise delivering the climb out over the side exit rather than using the steps where possible to reduce the amount of contact with equipment.  |     | In line with pool risk assessment      |  |
| Teachers should refer to <a href="#">Swim England's example temporary lesson structure plan</a> where swimmers resume lessons after being out of the water for a significant period.   |     | In line with pool risk assessment      |  |
| Each swimming teacher should have access to a bucket or scoop to rinse teacher area as needed.   |     | In line with pool risk assessment      |  |
| Where possible clubs and other non-school groups should bring their own equipment.   |     | In line with pool risk assessment      |  |
| Hydrotherapy pools:  |     |  |  |



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| if social distancing can't be maintained due to immediate safety concerns, close contact should be kept to a minimum by those not part of the same household, social support bubble or allocated care support as part of a school bubble.  | N/A |  |  |
| <b>Supporting Test and Trace</b>   |     |  |  |
| Records of pool use must be maintained for contact tracing requirements as described in Covid-19 Educational settings – management of cases guidance for internal use.<br>Contact details for the main contact for any hirers, e.g. clubs using the pool, should be maintained for 21 days from date of hire                   |     | All staff lateral flow testing twice weekly. |  |
| <b>Ventilation</b>   |     |  |  |
| Where installed, review the setup of your air conditioning system to maximise the intake of fresh air. Recirculating air systems may require adjustment to increase fresh air flow.  | N/A |  |  |
| Air flow throughout premises (not just pool area) has been increased to maximise fresh air, including through opening doors and windows.   | N/A |  |  |
| <b>Cleaning and Disinfection</b>   |     |  |  |
| To make sure that any site or location that has been closed or partially operated is clean and ready to restart, including assessment of the parts of the site that have been closed before restarting; and that enhanced cleaning and disinfection procedures and provision of hand sanitising are in place during operation. |     |  |  |
| Apply and maintain enhanced cleaning and disinfection procedures already in place elsewhere in the school to the pool facilities, as detailed in the main Compliance Code and risk assessment including cleaning shared facilities, e.g. changing rooms between group use.   | N/A |  |  |
| Equipment should be cleaned in between use by submerging in adequately (normally) disinfected swimming pool water  | N/A |  |  |



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| Equipment that cannot be sanitised in the pool should be appropriately cleaned between activities, e.g. handrails in high traffic areas.  | N/A |                                   |  |
| <p><b>Arrangements for hiring out facilities</b><br/>         When hiring out facilities schools have a joint responsibility with the hirer to ensure the safety of site users. Schools will need to put in place arrangements to assure themselves that the hirer will operate safely and not increase the risk of transmission and ensure that they have considered the impact on the school premises-.</p>   |     |                                   |  |
| Where swimming pool hire takes place during the school day, the schools COVID-19 Risk Assessment has been reviewed to reflect this.   |     |                                   |  |
| <p>Inform pool users (clubs, coaches, community groups, contractors) of the following prior to agreeing to hire, e.g. on websites and booking forms:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• infection control requirements when visiting the premises</li> <li>• reduced capacity maximums for various areas of the site, e.g. changing rooms and pool</li> <li>• requirement to undertake cleaning of hand contact points and equipment between groups within their club/session</li> <li>• requirement to limit the use of changing rooms to minimum necessary</li> <li>• requirement to ensure all pool users are well and not displaying symptoms of COVID-19</li> <li>• requirement to bring/use their own equipment or to clean equipment after use, where part of the hire agreement</li> <li>• requirement to maintain records of attendance for 21 days</li> </ul> | N/A | In line with pool risk assessment |  |



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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>the school will maintain records of the main contact for hirers for 21 days from date of hire and provide this to the test and trace service on request</li> <li>any changes to Normal Operating Procedures and Emergency Action Plans</li> <li>any other changes to school protocols, e.g. for arrival/entry; exit; parking; staffing; lifeguarding, health and safety; accident reporting; toilet usage.</li> </ul> |     |  |  |
| <p>Evidence of compliance with principles contained in this checklist will be sought from hirers prior to use, e.g. through receipt of a risk assessment or COVID-19 secure declaration.</p>   | N/A |  |  |
| <p><b>Other Management Considerations</b></p>  |     |  |  |
| <p>The pool has been reinstated following the requirements of COVID-19 - PWTAG Technical Notes on Re-opening a Pool and Technical Operation after COVID-19 Shutdown.</p>   | N/A |  |  |
| <p>Pool water quality and chemical levels are maintained in accordance with COVID-19 - PWTAG Technical Notes on Re-opening a Pool and Technical Operation after COVID-19 Shutdown.</p>   | N/A |  |  |
| <p>Due to the potentially increased risk of transmission from aerosols and droplets, lesson and activity planning should consider:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>reducing the need to raise voices unduly, e.g. by not playing music that may encourage shouting, or activities that increase background noise levels</li> <li>Not undertaking activities that may increase aerosol droplet formation e.g. snorkelling</li> </ul>               | N/A |  |  |



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| <b>Review of existing assessments</b>   |  |  |  |
| Review arrangements ensure that the control measures are effective and working as planned and following updates to guidance |  |  |  |
| <b>Any other actions that are not listed above:</b>   |  |  |  |
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| <b>Assessor's Name:</b> Shannon O'Sullivan | <b>Manager's Name:</b> Caroline Greenland |
| <b>Position:</b> Headteacher               | <b>Position:</b> HLTA/PE Leader           |
| <b>Signature:</b> S.O'Sullivan             | <b>Signature:</b> C.J.Greenland           |