

Covid FAQ Sheet – August 2020

Below is information relating to the processes in place following government guidance to ensure facilities and transport are covid secure:

Instruction -

When will risk assessments be completed? –

Due to the changing guidance for the indoor leisure industry, risk assessments will be completed by end of day 4th September 2020. This will ensure that all information provided is up to date ready for school swimming commencing.

To ensure that all schools are fully aware of the processes in place we are working with the operators at each facility to develop short videos for you to watch prior to attending your first lesson (which can also be shown to pupils). This will give you a clear picture of what to expect when you arrive and also the processes that are in place for you to follow. These videos will include the following; where to enter the building, journey to the changing rooms, where to get changed, journey to the pool, how to enter poolside, exiting poolside, journey back to the changing rooms and finally exiting the building. These will be stored on Swimphony from Monday 7th September in the resources section.

Please note these will be regularly updated in-line with any changes to guidance.

How will risk assessments be distributed to schools? –

These will be held centrally with MCR Active and can be provided upon request by a school – please contact Lyndsey Lidyard – l.lidyard@mcraactive.com.

Please note these will be regularly updated in-line with any changes to guidance

What are the maximum numbers per session? –

MCR Active can deliver a full programme due to schools operating in bubbles from September. Please note if you currently attend our ‘super teaching’ sessions for 60 pupils and are operating ‘class’ bubbles rather than ‘year’ bubbles, please get in touch with Lyndsey as your delivery model will need to change. To confirm classes of 60 can only operate if the school are working within a ‘year’ bubble.

How should pupils arrive for their swimming lessons? –

We are wanting to limit the amount of time spent in changing rooms, therefore following the guidance of ‘arrive pool ready’ we are encouraging schools to bring pupils with swimwear on under their clothes. However, we appreciate this is not always possible due to timings of lessons etc, so please feel free to tailor to suit the school. This could include swimming hats being put on prior to arrival at the pool

How will equipment (arm bands and woggles etc) be sanitized after a lesson? –

In-line with Swim England guidance once equipment is placed under the water it is sanitized. Following each lesson the equipment will be submerged in pool water

How will the schools enter and exit leisure centres, including journey through the centre? –

Each facility will have a one way system through the building which everyone must adhere to. In the leisure centres where the schools have their own entrance then this will still be in use. Please note reception areas will be managed by centre staff to ensure the continual flow of people through the building. This will all be shown on the videos that will be provided

How will the cleaning schedule work so that changing rooms are cleaned before schools arrive? –
Once a school has completed their lesson and has vacated a changing room / area then this space will be cleaned following the operators Covid-19 cleaning procedures, adhering to government guidance.

Will the swimming instructors be issuing certificates to the pupils? –
For Autumn term certificates will be distributed electronically. This will be done through the Swimphony, further updates will be provided once we have confirmation

What will happen if a rescue needs to be performed? –
Swimming instructors and lifeguards will work towards the normal protocol for performing rescues. They will be encouraged to use poles and torpedo buoys for reach & rescue. Where this is not possible they will enter the water to perform rescues

When will the swimming lessons start in September? –
Swimming will recommence week beginning 14th September 2020. The calendar is provided.

What is the protocol for 'track and trace'? –
All schools contact details (school name and phone number) will be stored at each facility for the purpose of track and trace monitoring.

Once the pupils are changed ready for swimming, where do they go to ensure social distancing takes place between schools? –

Each individual centre is currently allocating a 'holding area' for schools to wait until their lesson is due to start. Where possible this will be on poolside or as close to the poolside entrance as possible. To ensure the smooth transition of lessons, it is important for at least one member of staff to make themselves known to the instructor that they have arrived and are ready to start the lesson – please note the class in the water will not enter the changing room until this is done. This is to ensure that there is a minimum number of people within the changing room area at the same time

Will there be other users in the pool at the same time as pupils? –
From September until at least January 2021, all school swimming sessions will have exclusive use of the pool space and changing rooms following the guidance from Swim England that only one activity can take place in the pool at any time. This will be regularly monitored in-line with any new guidance provided, we will ensure you are kept up to date with any changes

What to do if you have any concerns whilst at your school swimming lesson? –
We want to build on the great relationships that the schools already have with the leisure centre teams and hope that any concerns can be dealt with immediately at the centre. Please notify either the swimming instructor or duty manager on shift who will be happy to assist with your concerns.

Transport -

What measures are in place for transport?

Vehicles

Following guidance from Transport for Greater Manchester each bus will be cleaned after every journey including all touch points being cleaned and sanitized. In addition to this every bus will have a full fumigation every evening.

There will be hand sanitizer at the entrance of all buses, however we would encourage the staff and pupils to sanitize their hands when leaving school premises.

The depot is also maintained to a high Covid secure standard in lines with guidance

Drivers

All drivers will wear a mask and have their temperature and Covid conditions checked every morning before they start work

Lost Property

All school staff are responsible for undertaking a full sweep of the vehicle upon departure at the pool and school to ensure all belongings are removed

Risk Assessments

There is a Covid-19 risk assessment that will be held centrally with MCR Active and can be sent to schools upon request, please note schools are still responsible for conducting their own off site risk assessment

Accessible Vehicles

It is important that you notify MCR Active ASAP if you require accessible transport for any pupils as the buses will be put on regular routes to maintain continuity

Dealing with queries

As described under instruction if any members of staff have any concerns please ensure you notify the driver immediately who will deal with the concern following the companies processes