

Swimming with Puddle Ducks

Merseyside from 2nd September 2021



Over the last few months things have been very different with teachers out of the water, no spectators, limited changing rooms, mask wearing and more and we know we all want to go towards a more 'normal' as soon as possible. Moving to Step 4 of the Government Roadmap means some more positive changes for your swimming lessons.

Please remember the Puddle Ducks experience may still not be the same for everyone across the UK due to different rates of releasing restrictions in Wales and Scotland and because some pools may still insist on certain procedures to ensure the ongoing safety of everyone who uses the pool however what you can be assured of is that, along with our governing body, STA, we will continue to put your safety and the safety of our teams as our top priority. To this end, we wanted to cover the main areas that have been affected by Covid restrictions and how these might now start to look from our return to pools from next week.

Face Coverings

Whilst these are no longer a legal requirement in indoor settings, we will be encouraging all adults who attend our lessons to still wear a Face Covering inside the pool building (but not in the pool) and our team members will still wear Face Coverings as they move around the buildings. This request is out of respect not only for our customers but also for our pool providers and their teams. In addition, the following pools have already stated they still require Face Coverings to be worn inside their buildings and we ask that our customers respect this request except if they are medically exempt:

Everton Nursery School & Family Centre

Rowan Park Teaching School Litherland

Arrival time

As per pre-covid procedures, arriving no more than 15 minutes before the start of your lesson should be plenty of time to get ready and be poolside before the start of your lesson.

Changing rooms will be available once again at the following pools and you will no longer have to arrive swim-ready unless you choose to:

Crowne Plaza Central Liverpool

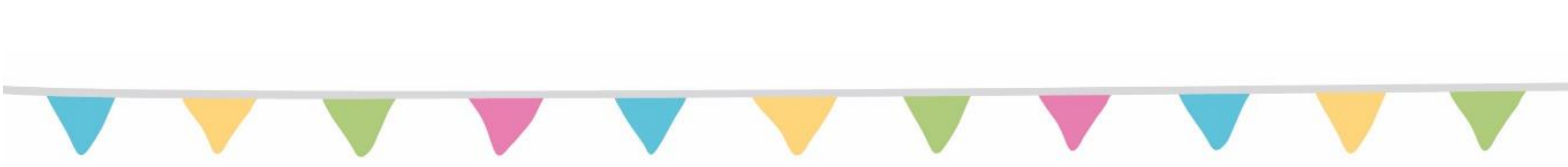
Everlast Southport Ocean Plaza

Redbridge High School

Mercure Haydock Park

Everlast St Helens Milverny

Ormskirk C of E Primary School



We still won't have access to the changing rooms prior to our lessons at the following pools so please continue to arrive swim-ready and no earlier than 10 minutes before the start time of your lesson if you swim at one of these pools:

Springwood Heath Primary School

Rowan Park Teaching School, Litherland.

Everton Nursery School & Family Centre

At these three pools there will continue to be access to the changing rooms after your lesson, please ensure you remember to take all your belongings home with you.

Arriving swim-ready – what does that mean?

If there is still no access to changing rooms at your pool, you and your child should arrive swim-ready at the venue i.e., with your swimming costume/trunks/swim nappy on underneath your clothes.

We appreciate that those children still in nappies might need a nappy change just before their lessons. Ideally this can be done in the car before entering the building but if not, please take a change mat to the poolside with you and make sure you have nappy bags and another bag in which to put the nappy bag to ensure there is no waste left visible at poolside.

As always please bring only the essentials (keeping valuables to a minimum) and one bag to put everything in as this will be left poolside.

We also recommend that you bring a change mat/ extra towel that can be rolled up and placed in your bag, especially those of you who have little ones who would use a change table or a bench.

Spectators

In line with the easing of Social distancing restrictions, from September our teaching team are back in the water with you and our class sizes will return to normal where adjustments have previously been made. With that in mind and in conjunction with the fact some of our pools are in environments with particularly vulnerable people such as our special needs schools for the short term we would like to maintain a no-spectators policy to keep everyone as safe as possible and allow our little one's time to adapt to these changes. Be assured this will be reviewed regularly and any changes will be communicated on a pool-by-pool basis.

In the meantime, should you require assistance due to a disability (either your own disability or your child's), then please contact the office as you are able to bring a someone to help as necessary.

We would like to Thank you in advance for continuing to support us with this next phase of adjustments; our FAQs have also been updated so if you would also like to read about what, as your chosen swim school, Puddle Ducks is doing to keep you, your child and our team members safe, we have summarised all the steps we are continuing to take [here](#).