

## AHS Covid Risk Assessment factors for Swimming at AGS Pool

Since March, we have been closely monitoring and following the development and updating of national guidance documents from organisations such as Swim England, Royal Life Saving Society (RLSS), The Association for Physical Education and School Sport (AfPE) and the Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group (PWTAG). The Key 'Return to Swimming' documents are found on the following link: <https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/pool-return-guidance-documents/>).

On the issue of the pool water, the Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group (PWTAG) is the recognised body for Swimming Water Quality Standards in the UK, and they have advised operators that they should ensure their pool is operating within the guidance detailed in PWTAG Technical Notes which can be found at <https://www.pwtag.org/>. UK swimming pools are commonly disinfected with chlorine (as a primary disinfectant) with a secondary disinfection method in the form of UV light. This enables the pool operator to state with confidence that Covid-19 should not be transmissible through the swimming pool water if the pool is operated in line with this guidance and that of PWTAG. AGS pool recently moved from a Bromine pool to a Chlorine pool. In accordance with the above the chlorine levels of the pool have now been raised slightly.

Other key factors which we have implemented into our adapted Risk Assessment for the lessons include the following:

- Induction visit has been carried out at AGS pool to discuss the new ways of working and current procedures within PSOP - Normal Operating Procedure (NOP) and Emergency Action Plan
- Provision of hand cleaning stations. Strict hand hygiene will take place before and after every Swimming lesson:
  - Wash hands thoroughly for 20 seconds after going to the toilet or use alcohol based hand rub
  - Do not make physical contact with other swimmers (such as shaking hands or high fiving)
  - Stay at least two metres away from other students as far as possible, when taking breaks and before and after activities
  - No congregating in or out of the pool once the lesson has ended
  - Students are asked to sanitise on entry and exit to the changing rooms using the hand sanitiser by the door
  - In addition to the school provided hand sanitiser which will be brought to every swimming lesson. PE staff are going to be highly recommending students have their own hand sanitiser and to bring them to Swimming lessons in the same way as they would bring their water bottles to lesson. Individual hand sanitisers and water bottles should be clearly labelled and never shared
- Implement teaching positions that follow suitable government guidance on social distancing. For example a 2m distance from the students in the pool is maintained
- Activities amended to avoid vigorous activity. This is important in a sports setting because of the way in which people breathe during exercise

- Open any doors and windows if possible, to ensure maximum ventilation
- Floats and cones and equipment will be used to support the distancing of students. Numbered equipment will be allocated to students
- All activities in swimming will be non-contact and planned to ensure that distance is maximised between students
- Year 7 students and students returning to the pool for the first time after a prolonged period of time will need to recap the areas of water safety as a priority area of delivery. This should include both swimming pool safety rules and water safety information
- All swimming teachers will follow SE's guidance; the pool PSOP and the school's strict hygiene and social distancing rules e.g. hand washing/sanitisation upon entry
- Pool chlorine levels have been increased as per national guidance by Pool Water Treatment Advisory Group (PWTAG) on Covid measures
- Walkie Talkie available to contact AGS Staff if required to implement covid measures
- Social distancing in entrance and changing areas
- Each swimming teacher will deliver from alternate sides. Students come onto the poolside and wait on their appropriate side of the pool spaced down the length in their designated swimming area. Each group to be on alternate sides of the pool to ensure distancing
- 2m squared meter distancing in the pool - pool layout and lesson activities amended to allow for this
- Teachers to prioritise delivering the climb out over the side exit rather than using the steps where possible. This will reduce the amount of contact to steps
- Students will attend school wearing PE Kit and where possible, have swimming attire underneath (beach ready). They will be able to fully change after the lesson in the changing rooms. Students reminded not to shake out towels or costumes but put straight into bags after the lesson
- Changing areas will be 'fogged' prior to each use by AGS PE Technicians using materials agreed by Carlton Associates (Bucks County Pool Water Treatment Adviser) and in accordance with the PWTAG. They will not be used after this for a period of 5 minutes. Particular attention will be given to high touch areas. Students to be allocated to one of 3 changing areas and use this area each lesson to ensure social distancing
- Sufficient time being planned for a new appropriate cleaning schedule and to allow time for one group to disperse and the next to arrive
- New equipment purchased (closed cell noodles in accordance with PWTAG Guidance), labelled and numbered so that students do not share equipment but are allocated equipment per learner at the start of the lesson. Equipment will be rotated for each class and cleaned as per PWTAG standard by AGS Staff
- There will be no loaning of goggles, hats and equipment. Please ensure that your daughter has the correct equipment for their swimming lesson
- Please ensure that your daughter is able to put on their swimming hat and goggles independently as School Staff will not be able to do this
- Please talk to your daughter about how they are feeling about returning to School Swimming - explain to them that things may be slightly different. The school will

be talking to the pupils about the changes that have been put in place, encourage your daughter to talk to the PE Dept if she has any questions or concerns.