
**SWIM
IRELAND**

Return to Water

Framework for Training Facilities,
Educators, Tutors & Assessors

Issued 3rd July 2020

Foreword

Swim Ireland Education plans and aspirations for 2020 changed completely on 18th March when lockdown was announced, with the shut-down of life as we knew it. Following the closure of swimming pools and leisure facilities across the island of Ireland, Swim Ireland faced a scenario that required a complete re-evaluation of the delivery of education and training across the organisation. However, what we also didn't know, was that as a result, the evolution of the Virtual Classroom, for the delivery of Courses, CPD and Webinars would revolutionise the adult learning sector within sport and subsequently bring to life a new and exciting learning experience for our partners and membership.

As we begin to emerge from lockdown and Return to Water, the safe and effective delivery of learner centred education is at the forefront of our minds. In particular, the delivery of practical education and training, ensuring the highest standards are maintained across our industry and within our clubs. With this in mind, Swim Ireland Education has produced the Return to Water Framework for Training Facilities, Educators, Tutors and Assessors, to support our partners and members. This document draws on principles found in the core Return to Water Frameworks;

- Return to Water Framework for Pool Operators
- Return to Water Framework for Swimming Lessons
- Return to Water Framework for Community Swimming and Instructor Led Activity
- Return to Water Framework for Pool Users
- Club Swimming Return to Water Framework

Following the advice from the Irish Government and the Northern Ireland Executive, these documents will be updated to ensure you are provided with the most current guidance and protocols for the delivery of Swim Ireland Education.

Swim Ireland Education will support you on your journey of Returning to Water and Getting Ireland Swimming again.



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Guidance for Training Facilities, Educators, Tutors & Assessors

Introduction

Following the Government of Ireland's publication of 'Roadmap for Reopening Society & Business' on 1st May 2020, Swim Ireland produced an interpretation of this and associated recommendations for how aquatic activities may be resumed in Ireland on a phased basis. As Swim Ireland gain clarity on a number of issues within the Government's published guidelines, it is likely that these recommendations and guidelines will be updated accordingly. This document has been developed in cooperation with industry partners, the Institute of Swimming, Swim England, Scottish Swimming and Swim Wales and aims to support Training Facilities, Educators, Tutors and Assessors in the delivery of practical elements of Training and Education following a period of closure, due to COVID-19, and provides guidance and protocols on reducing the risk of COVID-19 transmission within the Education and Training environment.

The Framework will highlight the continued requirements for safe social distancing and enhanced hygiene regimes, along with guidance on how this will impact on the different experiences the learner will have through Swim Ireland Education Courses.

As with all environments there is still a level of risk of COVID-19 transmission in aquatic settings that requires control measures to be implemented. Training Facilities, Educators, Tutors and Assessors should consider the risk associated before agreeing to the delivery of Swim Ireland Education Courses.

The protocols detailed in this document are based on a set of Education Guiding Principles set as follows;

Education Guiding Principles

- Each Training Facility, should have dedicated officers responsible for COVID-19 considerations, with such officers ensuring that they are up to date with central or local government recommendations. Such Officers should be aware of the rules and guidance set out by each facility where education and training may take place.
- Educators, Tutors and Assessors should be familiar with the facility PSOP which should include Risk assessments, NOP and EAP - in preparation for the delivery of education and training.
- In conjunction with Swim Ireland, Training Facilities should consider the number and movement of learners on poolside and how this can be managed to ensure social distancing based on each pool's capacity on deck.
- Training Facilities and Swim Ireland should consider reducing learner numbers for on deck practical teaching and coaching sessions based on each pool's capacity.
- Training Facilities should consider how learners operate on deck having read the [Framework for Pool Operators](#), the [Framework for Swimming Lessons](#) and the [Framework for Pool Users](#).
- Lifeguarding provision should be provided by the facility as per current legislation and government guidance in the Republic of Ireland and Northern Ireland.
- Pre-practical briefing and debrief should be delivered through the virtual classroom and/or in large spaces onsite, following social distancing guidance.
- Training Facilities should consider access, movement and spacing within the designated learning space following social distancing guidance.
- Educators, Tutors and Assessors should provide one to one feedback whilst following social distancing guidance and/or through virtual platforms.
- Social distancing guidance should be followed for any Tutor-led, Micro-

Teaching or Micro-Coaching sessions on deck.

- Training Facilities should follow the [Framework for Pool Operators](#) on the use and cleaning of equipment.
- Training Facilities should ensure sufficient access to wash stations for all designated learning spaces.
- Learners should use their own textbooks, pens and any other resources and these should not be shared.
- Educators, Tutors and Assessors should use electronic assessment materials as per Swim Ireland Assessment requirements.
- Educators, Tutors and Assessors should consider the suitability of teaching and learning resources for use on deck.
- Educators, Tutors and Assessors should attend relevant [virtual training](#) to ensure they are ready to adapt to the new environment.
- Educators, Tutors and Assessors should ensure all learners follow health guidelines for isolation should they become unwell, prior to or during the education and training course.
- Training Facilities, Educators, Tutors and Assessors should follow the Swim Ireland guidelines on assessment requirements.

Protocols for Training Facilities, Educators, Tutors & Assessors

Provided within this section is further detail on how Swim Ireland will implement the following protocols for the delivery of education and training. These protocols include preparation, practical delivery, training methodologies and additional considerations and requirements for the implementation of the protocols, along with links to supporting resources and examples of best practice to assist Training Facilities, Educators, Tutors and Assessors.

Protocol	Practical Implementation	Resources
<p>Swim Ireland will consider learner numbers on a facility by facility basis for poolside practical teaching sessions based on each pool's capacity.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Swim Ireland have a list of Tier 1 Training Facilities – these will be considered “Education Hubs” with status to deliver Swim Ireland Education as part of the return to water roadmap for Swim Ireland Education. These Education Hubs will have practical elements education and training available from September 2020, as per government guidance. Swim Ireland have a list of Tier 2 Training Facilities - facilities that have previously delivered Swim Ireland courses and that are eligible to be considered for the delivery of Swim Ireland Education following the submission of the relevant paperwork. Please see Tier 2 Training Facility Application for required paperwork submission to become a Tier 2 Training Facility. Tier 2 Training facilities should complete the COVID-19 Pre-Course Checklist at time of registration of any education and training, this will 	<p>Swim Ireland Tier 1 Training Facilities - Education Hubs</p> <p>Tier 2 Training Facility Application</p> <p>COVID-19 Facility Level 1 Assistant Swimming Teacher Pre-Course Checklist</p>

	<p>be reviewed by Swim Ireland Education.</p>	<p>COVID-19 Facility Level 1 Assistant Swimming Coach Pre-Course Checklist</p> <p>COVID-19 Facility Level 2 Swimming Teacher Pre-Course Checklist</p>
<p>Swim Ireland will utilise alternative methods of delivery and assessment to ensure the safety of all Educators, Tutors, Assessors and Learners</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pre practical briefing and debrief will be delivered in larger spaces - for example sports halls, other suitable open spaces or outside areas. • Feedback following the practical teaching/coaching sessions will be delivered away from the aquatic education setting – for example via phone or virtual classroom. • Time for 1-2-1 feedback will be incorporated into the required guided learning hours for Level 1 & Level 2 Teaching and Coaching Courses and Educators, Tutors and Assessors will allocate time slots to Learners • Practical delivery will follow the format detailed in the Course Overview in Training Facilities • Video submission for practical elements will be utilised to reduce the time needed for practical activity for Level 1 Assistant Swimming Coach course 	<p>Online meeting tools such as Go To meeting, Zoom, Teams and Skype.</p> <p>STEP</p> <p>Level 1 Assistant Swimming Teacher Course Overview</p> <p>Level 1 Assistant Swimming Coach Course Overview</p> <p>Level 2 Swimming Teacher Course Overview</p>

- Electronic assessment materials will be utilised to record competency - paper based learner assessment portfolios will not be provided.
- Tutors will not provide, nor lend textbook resources to Learners, and Learners should provide their own. Should Learners choose to purchase these – this should be done through the event section on Go Membership.
- Educators, Tutors and Assessors can utilise Game or Resource cards – these should be shown but not shared. They could be shared online.
- Learners should use their own pens and other stationary throughout.
- Learners should be encouraged to provide their own individual mini whiteboard, pen and rubber – Educators, Tutors and Assessors should advise in advance if this is a requirement for the course.
- Educators, Tutors and Assessors should consider the suitability and safe use of teaching and learning resources such as pens and flip chart. Where possible electronic supportive resources should be utilised.
- Educators, Tutors and Assessors should use their own projector where possible. If using a centre’s equipment movement of this should be minimised.
- Educators, Tutors and Assessors should laminate any table handouts and then sanitise after each use.

[Level 1 Assistant Swimming Teacher Text Book](#)

[Level 2 Swimming Teacher Text Book](#)

[Level 2 Swimming Coach - Championship Swim Training](#)

<p>Training Facilities will be required to evidence appropriate access, movement and spacing within the designated learning space following social distancing guidance in advance of registration of courses.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Training Facilities to provide diagram/instructions to Swim Ireland a minimum of 7 days in advance of training course • Consider entries and exits and one way movement within classroom spaces. • Seating spaced far enough apart to adhere to social distancing guidance. • Consider use of other areas within the facility for example sports hall, other suitable open spaces or outside areas. 	
<p>Training Facilities will ensure operation in line with current social distancing guidance and safety operation guidance</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All practical sessions should be prepared and delivered in line with current social distancing guidance • All practical sessions should take into account the relevant safety operation guidance as per their jurisdiction 	<p>Swimming Pool Safety Guidelines</p> <p>HSG179 Health & Safety in Swimming Pools</p> <p>Swim Ireland Safe Supervision</p>
<p>Educators, Tutors and Assessors should attend relevant virtual training to ensure they are ready to adapt to the new environment and the new course format.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educators, Tutors and Assessors should attend relevant training and familiarise themselves with the guidance to ensure they have this knowledge when delivering education and training for Swim Ireland. 	<p>Virtual CPD: Return to Water - Framework for Training Facilities, Educators, Tutors and Assessors</p>

<p>Ensure training facilities and Educators, Tutors & Assessors are still following Swim Ireland guidelines on assessment requirements and safe supervision</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educators, Tutors and Assessors to familiarise themselves with the guidance in relation to assessment and appeals • Training Facilities, Educators, Tutors and Assessors to hold a copy of Swim Ireland Safe Supervision Guide • Educators, Tutors and Assessors to familiar themselves with the guidance in relation to Virtual Learning Platforms and online interactions 	<p>Swim Ireland Assessment Process</p> <p>Swim Ireland Appeals Process</p> <p>Swim Ireland Safe Supervision</p> <p>Swim Ireland: Briefing Note Virtual Learning Platforms</p> <p>Swim Ireland: Using Virtual Platforms for Online Interactions with Young People</p>
<p>Swim Ireland Educators, Tutors & Assessors should carry their own sanitation equipment and personal protective equipment</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In line with current guidelines, Educators, Tutors and Assessors should carry appropriate personal protective equipment and utilise as directed by The Irish Government or the Northern Ireland Executive • Educators, Tutors and Assessors should carry hand sanitiser, disinfectant spray and any other sanitation product to ensure appropriate sanitisation of personal equipment such as pens, laminates and game cards etc 	<p>UK & Northern Ireland Government Recommendations</p> <p>ROI Health Products Regulatory Authority Recommendations</p>

For further information and guidance, please contact [Bethan Laker](mailto:bethanlaker@swimireland.ie) National Pool Partnerships & Programming Manager Swim Ireland
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