



# CITY OF SOUTHAMPTON SWIMMING CLUB

The Quays Swimming and Diving Complex  
27 Harbour Parade, Southampton, SO15 1BA

## CSSC Changing Rooms Policy

### Safeguarding / Duty of Care

Under the Duty of Care to Safeguard Children CSSC has a responsibility for the wellbeing of children in the changing rooms.

It should however be noted that the ASA do not advise adults to supervise changing facilities as that places them and the children at risk of allegations of improper behaviour and a precedent that could potentially lead to children being put at risk. Coaches are therefore not recommended to supervise the changing room areas.

The view of Swim England (ASA) is that while a child is in training or being taught, they remain under the responsibility and the duty of care of the person who is teaching or coaching them at that time on behalf of the club. If a swimmer goes off poolside during a session, the coach or teacher should be made aware of this. If the child fails to return within a reasonable time, or appears upset upon leaving the poolside, the coach/teacher should request a suitable club official to check on them. It is best practice for two persons to look for the swimmer (the second person could be a senior swimmer or another parent).

If a complaint is received about an incident that has occurred in the changing room between a swimmer or member of the club and another person, the club has a duty to act upon that concern as appropriate following the recommended ASA guidance. If the incident involved a person not associated with the club, the pool manager should be made aware and consideration given as to whether the statutory agencies need informing.

### Changing Facilities

Parents are made aware, via this policy, that:

- The changing facilities at venues used by the club may be shared by both club members and members of the general public.
- Swimming venues used by the club have different types of changing facilities, i.e. separate for male and female, family or village changing.
- The behaviour of swimmers in the changing rooms/facilities is part of the swimmers' code of conduct.
- Changing rooms will not be supervised by the Club.
- Parents should not normally be in the changing room whilst their swimmers are changing, unless the swimmer is of an age where help is required from parents or the swimmer requires additional specific assistance. This is generally at an age that is stipulated by the pool hirer, usually 8 years of age. In such circumstances the parent must be the same gender as the child, unless the facility has family changing facilities or is a 'mixed changing village'.
- In some instances parents may need to help their swimmer with putting on/taking off their race suits. They should ensure they meet their swimmer in the changing rooms. This is not the responsibility of the coach.