



Letchworth Amateur Swimming Club (LASC) Changing room policy in line with Wavepower.

Under the duty of care to safeguard children LASC has the responsibility for the wellbeing of children in the changing rooms. This does not mean that parents/carers have no responsibility, but parents are often not in the pool complex at the time when children are swimming and training to exercise their duty of care.

LASC swim at three locations;

- Letchworth Leisure Centre (Winter)
- Letchworth Outdoor pool (Summer)
- St Christopher's School Letchworth (Winter)

Responsibility during a club session

LASC requires parents to remain on the premises if they have children under 8 or for those children with a disability who may require additional help that the club is unable to provide. At the parent's discretion children over the age of 8 maybe left once signed in with LASC staff, however parents need to remain contactable should a session have to end early due to unforeseen circumstances.

The view of the Swim England is that while a child is training or being taught, they remain under the responsibility of LASC and duty of care of the person who is teaching them at the time. If a child leaves the pool area i.e. enters the changing rooms at any of the training venues then their teacher should be aware of this. If the child is under the age of 8 and requires the toilet they will be escorted by two members of LASC staff or parent if present on pool side. If an unaccompanied child does not return to the lesson within a reasonable amount of time, then two members of staff will enter the changing rooms check on them. Any member of coaching staff that is required to change may do so using one of the cubicles in the changing room. **Mobile phones are not allowed to be used within the changing rooms.**

If a complaint is received about an incident that has occurred in the changing rooms between a member of the club and any other person, LASC has a duty to act upon that concern as appropriate, following the guidance in Wavepower.

Venue specific information

Letchworth Leisure Centre/Letchworth Outdoor Pool – Swim England does not advise that adults supervise changing rooms as that places them and the children at risk of harm and allegation. Please be aware that another club uses the changing rooms directly after our session ends at 8pm.



St Christopher's School- Swim England does not advise that adults supervise changing rooms as that places them and the children at risk of harm and allegation. Swimmers are requested **not** to use the changing room unless they are coming directly from another sport. Swimmers should arrive swim ready and leave as soon as they have swum.

Responsibility after a session is completed

The view of Swim England and LASC is it has a reasonable duty of care to their members, which extends to an awareness on the part of the club that their junior members have been collected, in so far as is possible, at the conclusion of a session. i.e. that a member is not left unsupervised if a parent is late. Swim England and LASC feel this policy has to be age appropriate i.e. a 17 year is capable of getting themselves home a 12 year old is not. Please instruct your child to make themselves known to a member of the LASC team if they have not been collected.

LASC staff will ensure that the child is supervised appropriately until the parent arrives or the parent communicates different arrangements. This should not be a regular occurrence and will be monitored by the club.

If a parent fails to collect a child, LASC will follow the procedure outlined in the Wavepower Late Collection of Children.