



Leisure industry news published by STA - June 2017



Updated Guide for Baby Swimming

STA is pleased to have played a significant part in influencing the updated standards in the new PAS 520 publication launched this month. The 2nd edition of the British Standards Institute Code of Practice is an updated version of the baby swimming guidelines first introduced in October 2015 and is backed by all

the major awarding organisations in the aquatics industry. Of particular note are the industry's recommendations for baby submersion, which follow STA's submersion policy.

[Read more](#)



Full House for STA Aquatics

CIMSPA's vision is to develop a UK wide, vibrant and professional workforce through ensuring the provision of quality qualifications and CPDs that meet the needs of the sector. STA fully supports this aim and is therefore delighted to confirm that all its level 2 and level 3 aquatic qualifications have now been endorsed by CIMPSA.

[Read more](#)



**Swim
England**



ROYAL
LIFE SAVING
SOCIETY UK



**water
babies**



turtle tots

The Industry Unites to Share Concerns About 'Survival' Teaching Methods

All of the major UK bodies involved in swimming and lifesaving have come together to speak out about using 'survival' methods to teach young infants. STA with Birthlight, RLSS and Swim England are united in their concerns about the growing use of 'drown-proofing' techniques in the UK, and in a new report published this month, questions have been raised about these teaching methodologies. The report is also supported by Water Babies UK, Puddle Ducks and Turtle Tots UK.

[Read more](#)

STA Celebrates 10,000 Members!

STA proudly hit an important milestone in the Association's history last month. In May, STA registered the 10,000th STA member – and the number has since gone on to surpass this landmark figure.

[Read more](#)

New Three-Year Partnership With Walsall Council

A new three-year partnership has been agreed between Walsall Council and STA. The newly-branded STA Walsall Swim Academy will operate across four of the local authority's pools as part of a strategic approach that aims to regenerate the current swim scheme through the introduction of STA's International Learn to Swim Programme (ILSP) and supporting programmes, and give customers a more exciting and diverse programme. The scheme was launched this month, and will officially start in September 2017.

First Diploma Student

Well done to Zara Peasland from Little Turtle Swim Company who has become the first teacher to successfully complete the STA Level 3 Diploma in Aquatic Teaching – Baby and Pre-School qualification. Find out more about the CIMSPA endorsed Diploma on our website.

[Learn more](#)

Free Online CPD to Support School Swimming Academy Programme

In support of the School Swimming Academy Programme, STA has launched a free online CPD this month to guide users through each stage of the programme, and all the information required to teach beginners and up to the higher exit levels.

[Read more](#)



Learn to Swim Week - Findings from National Research Revealed

For national Learn to Swim Week, which took place earlier this month, STA revealed the findings of new research which showed that a third of UK children are unable to swim because parents struggle with a lack of time and the money to teach them. As a result of this research, STA gained incredible media exposure during the week to help promote the #LoveWaterSafely message on hundreds of radio stations and national TV. Read more about the research on our website.

[Read more](#)

Last Chance to Register for a Summer of Fun With the Octonauts

This summer young learners have the chance to complete 10 new mini Octonauts' Explore, Rescue, Protect missions. In support STA has created

specially printed Octonauts 'Mission ID' sticker books so that learners can collect accompanying stickers for completing each of the missions.

[Find out more](#)

STA National Conference - Limited Places Available

Bookings are still being taken for STA's 2017 National Conference which takes place on 2nd September at Warwick Conferences, a fantastic newly built, state of the art venue in the West Midlands. STA has organised exciting keynote and guest speakers, including Mark Foster, plus a wide ranging educational seminar programme. The ticket price is just £50.

[Find out more](#)

STA Mentor Scheme - New July Course Announced

Do you know someone who is looking to become a swimming teacher but needs to find those practical teaching hours in the pool too? Through STA's mentor scheme, these opportunities are provided at a discounted price of £150 with the next course taking place on 24th - 28th July at Wrekin College in Shropshire. The training package includes the STA Safety Award for Teachers, Level 2 Award in Swimming Teaching and Safeguarding programme.

[Find out more](#)

Dangers of Mismanaging a Pool Circulation System

Newspaper reports this month of a six-year-old British girl almost drowning when her hair was sucked into a swimming pool filter at a hotel in Lanzarote, prompted Robbie Phillips, STA's lead pool plant expert, to speak out. He once again warned operators that the mismanagement of a pool's circulation system has serious repercussions on users if not properly risk assessed.

[Read more](#)

And Finally...

Thanks to everyone who supported Learn to Swim Week and helped us to promote the importance of learning to swim and water safety. [Check out STA's Facebook page](#) for all the photos and news from the week, which started with a soaking from the scouts at their annual gathering in London. Let's continue in our efforts to spread the #LoveWaterSafely message.

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