Element 14 - Safeguarding and Protecting Children &
Time To Listen Guidance

In order to meet the requirement for element 14, clubs are required to submit a minimum of four safeguarding certificates from the Swim England approved course list (please refer to bullet points below). These certificates should represent the people who have the most regular contact with young people within the club - one of these certificates must be that of the Club Welfare Officer.

Anyone needing to undertake a DBS within their role in a Swim England club, must also complete approved child safeguarding training (if 18 years or over), within 3 months of taking up the position. Please refer to Wavepower 2016-19, section 2 (page 45), for a list of personnel who require a DBS.

Swim England follows the recommendations made by the NSPCC Child Protection in Sport Unit (CPSU) with regard to safeguarding training for members with regular responsibility for children. Please note this training should contain a face-to-face element the first time that a person attends it, with possible refresher training available via an online format.

Approved Training

The preferred recommended training is the Swim England / UK Coaching (previously Sports Coach UK) Safeguarding and Protecting Children Workshop. The Swim England course uses aquatic learning scenarios, in addition to referencing Wavepower throughout. Further details on the workshop content, availability and booking a workshop in your area can be found on the Institute of Swimming website (http://www.swimming.org/ios/).


Swim England accepts the following Child Safeguarding training, which has been delivered (or accredited) by the following:

- Swim England / UK Coaching course – as noted above in bold
- UK Coaching Safeguarding and Protecting Children Workshop https://www.ukcoaching.org/
- A Local Safeguarding Children's Boards (LSCB) child safeguarding course for those in regular contact with children i.e. certification to show an LSCB logo
- National Health Service (NHS) accredited child safeguarding course for those in regular contact with children.
- SAFE (Safer Activities For Everyone) CIC standard safeguarding training, which has to be completed every two years
- Child Safeguarding training delivered by the Football Association (FA)
- Child Safeguarding training delivered by the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB)
Online Refresher Training

UK Coaching now offer three options for online refresher training i.e. Positive Parents, Digital Kids and Deaf & Disabled Children (all of these contain a core safeguarding refresher module). This online training is only suitable for individuals who have already completed the Safeguarding and Protecting Children (S & PC 1) face to face training.

Some of the training providers noted above may offer online refresher training, which is accepted by Swim England, for refresher purposes only i.e. face to face training must have been completed initially.

Please note that no additional training (face-to-face and online) will be accepted for SwimMark purposes.

Child Safeguarding Professionals or those who work with children in a frontline role.

In addition to the above Swim England will accept face-to-face, blended and online Safeguarding training from professionals working in frontline roles with children and young people. For example school teachers, teaching assistants, child social workers, child protection police officers, paediatricians and other child safeguarding professionals.

In these instances we would ask individuals to make sure they are familiar with Wavepower and the reporting procedures and submit proof of their professional role and completion of appropriate training, for example, a Head Teacher/School confirming a staff member’s role and completion of training on letter headed paper.

Please note these individuals must be working directly with children and young people on a day to day basis rather than individuals who may be working in those sectors in roles such as administrators, receptionists and caretakers/cleaners.

Child safeguarding training should be refreshed every three years unless stated otherwise.

Time to Listen Course Guidance

The CPSU has developed Time to Listen (TTL) to provide mandatory safeguarding training (regardless of their professional background in child safeguarding) for Club Welfare Officers in England and Wales.

The module has been tailored to aquatics with reference to Wavepower throughout and with aquatic scenarios to aid learning. TTL is designed as “one off” training for individuals who have already attended approved training as listed above.

A grace period of 1 year will be given to clubs whose Welfare Officer is initially unable to access a Time to Listen course. The club can still obtain SwimMark accreditation, however the designated Welfare Officer must attend the course before the date of the clubs SwimMark Essential Health Check – we will require a statement from the club adhering to this if no certificate is available to upload as evidence.

The Welfare Officer should be fully aware of Wavepower (2016-2019) polices and information and ensure it is adopted into all club practices.

For information on Time to Listen courses in your local area please contact your Club Development Officer/Regional Officer.