Changing Room Policy

**Orca Swimming Club is committed to a club environment in which all swimmers participating in its activities have a safe and positive experience. In order to achieve this Orca Swimming Club has defined responsibilities with regard to behaviour in and supervision of changing rooms - in line with Swim England/ASA guidelines.**

Orca Swimming Club parents/carers and swimmers should be aware that:

1. Changing facilities (including shower and toilet areas) at venues may be shared by both club members and members of the general public.
2. Different venues have different types of changing room e.g. separate for male and female or changing villages.
3. Swimmers must be on their best behaviour in changing rooms (before & after swimming) and respect others using the changing rooms and facilities.
4. Swimmers must respect the pool staff, pool facilities, equipment and other pool users when attending training sessions or open meets/galas. When using/sharing facilities with the public or in the public eye, swimmers are expected to behave at all times in a manner that reflects the good name of the club.
5. At events when other clubs are involved in a competitive event the facilities are likely to be open to the general public at any time during the event.
6. The ASA do not advise adults supervise changing facilities as that places the adult and the swimmer at risk of harm and allegation.
7. While a child is training, she/he remains under the responsibility/duty of care, of the person who is teaching/coaching him/her at that time on behalf of the club. However, this does not mean the parents have no responsibility. If a swimmer leaves the pool area, the coach/teacher must be made aware of this. If the child fails to return in a reasonable time, or appears to be upset upon leaving the poolside the coach/teacher will request suitable officials (i.e. other club official or volunteer) check on them and seek an explanation from the swimmer.
8. If a complaint is received that an incident has occurred in the changing room between a swimmer and any other person, the club has a duty to act upon that concern and investigate appropriately. If the incident involves a person no associated with the club, OCL will be made aware and consideration given as to whether the statutory agencies need informing.
9. If a parent fails to collect a swimmer at the end of a competitive event, Orca Swimming Club volunteers/ club officers will follow the procedures outlined in the club’s Dropping Off & Late Collection of Children Policy.