



Erith & District Swimming Club

Club Secretary: Mrs. S. Sproston
E-mail (for all enquiries): secretary@edsc.org.uk
Website: www.edsc.org.uk

EDSC Lateness and Early Departure Policy

Purpose

Attendance and punctuality are essential to creating a positive, safe and effective training environment. Every session is carefully planned by the coaching team, with each part of the session contributing to the swimmer's long-term development and performance.

Swimmers are expected to arrive on time, prepared, and ready to begin training at the scheduled start time.

The club recognises that, on occasion, unavoidable circumstances such as traffic and school, family or work commitments may result in a swimmer arriving late or needing to leave early. We appreciate that these situations are sometimes outside a family's control and will always take a reasonable and understanding approach.

Arrival at Training

Swimmers should arrive with sufficient time to change and use the toilet and showers. They should be on poolside **ready to enter the water at the advertised session start time**, with hat and goggles on and any required equipment prepared.

Being on poolside at the session start is not considered "on time" if the swimmer is still preparing to swim or delaying their entry into the water.

Late Arrival

If parents know in advance that their swimmer will be late, they should inform the session coach wherever possible. We appreciate that unexpected delays do occur and understand that it is not always possible to notify the coach beforehand. Older swimmers may be able to contact a teammate to pass on a message, which can be helpful.

Parents/ guardians of swimmers who arrive after the session has started should ensure that their swimmer has entered the facility safely and has reported to the coach before joining the session.



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Swimmers must never enter the water without first speaking to the coach.

This is important because:

- The coach must know exactly who is in the water at all times for safeguarding and safety.
- A swimmer entering the pool unnoticed creates unnecessary risk in the event of an emergency.
- The coach needs to assess where the session has reached and provide an appropriate warm-up before the swimmer joins the main set. For example, it would not be appropriate for a swimmer to immediately begin a breaststroke set without adequate preparation.

The coach will decide how and when the swimmer should join the session safely.

Early Departure

Swimmers are expected to remain for the full duration of every training session.

However, we recognise that swimmers may occasionally need to leave a training session early due to school commitments, medical appointments, family commitments or participation in other sports.

Where this is necessary, a parent or guardian should notify the session coach before the session begins. The coach can then plan accordingly and ensure the swimmer leaves the session safely and at the correct time.

For reasons of safeguarding and wellbeing, swimmers will not be permitted to leave a training session early unless the coach has prior confirmation from a parent or guardian. Once a swimmer has been registered for the session, they are considered to be under the club's supervision until the scheduled end of the session or until they have been released in accordance with prior arrangements.

Leaving the Pool During a Session

Swimmers are encouraged to use the toilet before training begins. If a swimmer needs to leave the pool during the session to use the toilet, they should inform the coach before leaving and return directly to the session once they have finished.



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If a swimmer feels unwell or sustains an injury during training, they should inform the coach immediately.

Depending on the circumstances, the coach may:

- Keep the swimmer on poolside while contacting their parent or guardian; or
- Allow the swimmer to get changed and return to the poolside while waiting to be collected.

Swimmers who are unable to continue training due to illness or injury should not leave the facility unaccompanied. They must be collected by a parent or guardian so that the Club can be confident they return home safely.

Shared Responsibility

Developing good habits around punctuality, communication and commitment is an important part of becoming a successful athlete.

Swimmers, parents and coaches all have a role to play in creating a safe, respectful and effective training environment. Good communication regarding lateness or early departure helps coaches plan sessions effectively, ensures appropriate supervision at all times and allows every swimmer to train safely.