



**Qualification Specification**

# **STA Level 3 Diploma in Aquatic Teaching – Baby and Pre-School**

**CIMSPA**  
ENDORSED

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## This qualification is regulated by Ofqual (England)

### STA Level 3 Diploma in Aquatic Teaching - Baby and Pre-School

Qualification Number: 603/1020/0

Credit Value: 42 Credits

#### Unit Structure

This qualification consists of 11 mandatory units

Unit Title	Code	Credit Value	Unit Level	GLH
Communication within Baby and Pre-School Swimming Lessons	Y/615/4663	5	3	3
Gentle Approach to Swimming	D/615/4664	5	3	3
Submersions within Baby and Pre-School Swimming Lessons	M/615/4667	3	3	4
Childhood Development Stages and Transition into Independence	R/615/4662	5	3	5
Learning and Play within Swimming Lessons	H/615/4665	4	3	6
Sensory Awareness within Swimming Lessons	K/615/4666	3	3	3
Babies and Pre-Schoolers with Additional Needs	L/615/4661	3	3	3
Reflecting upon Own Skills and Practice	T/615/4668	7	3	3
Safeguarding Children, Young People and Vulnerable Adults	A/615/4669	1	2	2
Planning, Preparing and Teaching Swimming	K/504/3122	3	2	13
Baby and Pre-School Swimming	H/504/3121	3	2	12

GLH = Guided learning hours

#### Total Qualification Time 370 Hours

## Qualification Delivery

Minimum contact hours for this qualification is 32 hours which includes direct teaching and assessing, but excludes breaks.

The course maybe run over 4 days, but can also be delivered over a period of weeks, with the minimum of each training session being 2 hours.

The ratio for this qualification is a maximum of 12 learners to 1 tutor.

## Introduction

The STA Level 3 Diploma in Aquatic Teaching - Baby and Pre-School expands and develops a baby and pre-school swimming teacher's current technical knowledge and provides them with the latest academic research and theories, which they can then integrate into their swimming lessons.

The Diploma covers specific knowledge on child development theories and communication and how these core elements can be incorporated into practical teaching. Baby and pre-school swimming teachers will be reflecting upon their practice and their professional development.

The qualification has been developed in partnership with Birthlight.

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## Qualification Objective

Expand a baby and pre-school swimming teacher's current knowledge on the latest baby and pre-school development's in order to improve their practice. The Diploma covers communication, gentle approaches to swimming, baby and toddler development, transition to independent swimming, submersions, babies and pre-schoolers with additional needs and the importance of reflection as a teacher.

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## Target Learners

This qualification is for learners who already hold a baby and pre-school swimming teaching qualification and wish to expand their current knowledge and practice. Learners must have at least 50 hours practical teaching experience and have held their baby and pre-school swimming teaching qualification for a minimum of 6 months. This qualification could appeal to those working in the leisure industry, private baby swimming market or independent swim schools.

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## Progression

Experienced teachers are often employed as mentors for newly qualified baby and pre-school teachers, or take on the role of swimming co-ordinators within their swim schools.

Alternatively, learners may move into teaching those with disabilities or beginner learners.

## Industry Standards

The STA Diploma is mapped to the following occupational standards:

- SCDHSC0034 Promote the safeguarding of children and young adults
- SCDHSC0024 Support the safeguarding of individuals

This qualification has been designed in line with the following industry standards:

- PAS 520:2015 Safeguarding to 0 to 4 year old children within the teaching of swimming, including any associated professional photography - code of practice
  - PAS 81:2011 Specification for the management of a swimming school
  - STA Swimming Teaching Code of Practice
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## Entry Requirements

- Be 18 years of age or older
  - Hold current membership of STA
  - Hold the STA Award in Aquatic Teaching - Baby and Pre-School or acceptable equivalent if the online up-skill and STA Baby and Pre-School portfolio are completed
  - Hold a baby and pre-school teaching qualification for at least 6 months and have 50 practical baby and pre-school teaching hours.
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## Special Considerations and Reasonable Adjustments Policies

For further information on these, please refer to the policies section on the Safety Training Awards website:

<https://www.safetytrainingawards.co.uk/policies/>

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## Awarding Organisation Policies

A full list of awarding organisation policies are available on the website: <https://www.safetytrainingawards.co.uk>

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## Any Other Requirements

Qualification certificates will not be issued until all pre-requisites have been supplied. Pre-requisites must be supplied within 12 months of the course end date to gain the qualification.

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## Grading Format

Pass / Fail

## Assessment Methods

- Continual assessment by the tutor
  - Complete a portfolio and worksheet questions to the satisfaction of the course tutor
  - Complete post-course work, case studies, lesson plans, lesson evaluation and reflective journal to the satisfaction of the assessor
  - Learners have 9 months to complete all post course work.
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## Tutor Requirements

All tutors must have the skills, knowledge and experience to be able to teach and demonstrate the subject.

Each tutor must be approved by Safety Training Awards and provide evidence of:

1. STA Diploma in Aquatic Teaching - Baby and Pre-School qualification
  2. Hold or working towards a formal tutoring and assessing qualification
  3. Maintaining their technical competence within the subject area and provide evidence of continuing professional development (CPD)
  4. Attend a standisation training day.
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## IQA Requirements

Internal Quality Assurers (IQAs) of this qualification must have knowledge and competency in swimming teaching as well as knowledge and competency in internal quality assurance.

An IQA must hold:

1. STA Diploma in Aquatic Teaching - Baby and Pre-School
2. Attend a STA / IQA training day or hold a recognised internal quality assurance qualification.

Note: IQAs cannot quality assure a course for which they were a learner, the tutor and / or assessor.

## Resource Requirements

- STA Diploma in Aquatic Teaching - Baby and Pre-School manual - A manual is required for learners to have access to theoretical and practical knowledge of the qualification
- A range of swimming teaching equipment:
  - Demonstration dolls
  - Toys
  - Play rafts
  - Woggles
  - Floats
- In order to fulfil the practical requirements of this qualification, access to an appropriate swimming facility is required on each day of the course. The facility should meet the required temperature and depth requirements for teaching baby and pre-school learners.

### Venue

- Room size: Adequate space for all learners on the course to undertake theory and practical work
- Seats: One per learner
- Writing surfaces: Adequate for each learner to take notes
- Toilets: Separate facilities for male and female learners
- Ventilation: Should be adequate
- Lighting: Should be suitable for reading, combining a mixture of natural and artificial light
- Heating: Should maintain a 'shirt sleeve' environment, minimum temperature 16°C
- Access/exits: Should be safe, well lit and cater for people with special needs
- Floor coverings: Should be carpeted or mats / blankets provided for use during practical sessions
- Cleanliness: Maintain a clean, tidy and hygienic environment
- Noise: Consider whether there is noise that may distract candidates from training
- Electrical items: When projectors and other electrical equipment are used, the equipment must be checked to ensure it is in safe working order. It is important to be aware of trip hazards associated with electric cables in order to reduce such risks.