



# Paul Dewey

SWIMMING TEACHER



Paul has worked at The Flipper Club since August 2013. He was introduced to the Swim School when he enrolled his children into lessons - find out the rest of Paul's teaching story... .

## What was your job prior to teaching?

I worked for a number of Engineering consultancies in the UK before I started teaching swimming. After 14 years of consulting with adults I decide to take the plunge and start teaching children in sport. I wanted to do something completely different and swim teaching provided a wonderful new direction.

## What interested you about swim teaching?

I was keen to teach one of the sports that interested me and had experience of as a triathlete. Out of all the sports I picked the one (Swimming) that is a major life skill and is essential for all.

## How has teaching impacted your life?

In 2010 when I made the switch from office to pool, I no longer needed to worry about managing staff or project budgets. Instead I found teaching relaxing and rewarding. Swimming has really benefited my work life balance in a fantastic way.

## What do you like most about teaching?

I find it particularly rewarding whether teaching a beginner or a more advanced swimmer. There is no greater feeling, as a swimming teacher, than watching any swimmer learn, improve and flourish. It is encouraging to see individual's progress.

## What opportunities are there now that you're a teacher?

There are many opportunities to increase your knowledge and qualifications as new techniques and coaching strategies continually develop.

## What advice would you give anyone else considering a career change into swim teaching?

I really benefited from the 3 month shadowing with Christine (Flipper Club) before I qualified as a Level 2 teacher. With anything experience and the qualification link hand in hand and the two go together. It's also great to work with a wide variety of swim teachers and I am continually evolving new techniques from other swimming teachers.

## Are you a swimmer yourself?

I used to swim 3 times week in the pool and open water as part of my Ironman triathlon training. Personal swimming has taken a back seat to cycling and rock climbing. I spent most of my spare time on my bike or climbing and walking with my family. I love spending time outdoors enjoying the wide range of activities and challenges.

