

Aquatots Photo Shoot!

Aquatots offer you the opportunity to have an underwater photograph taken of your child. Our aim is to provide you with amazing memorable images and therefore we work with Professional Photographer Lucy Ray of Starfish Underwater Photography.

Aquatots holds up to 3 photo shoots a year usually in the Spring, Summer & Winter terms. These shoots run on weekends and take place in our lovely warm hydrotherapy pool at Bettridge School, Up Hatherley, Cheltenham.

Your child must be confident undertaking a minimum of 5 submersions in a 30 minute session. Babies therefore must have completed a **minimum of our Aquatots Duckling level** in order to attend a photo shoot but we welcome our 'seasoned' Aquatots children too, either way, we will do our best to capture your child's best side and give you photographic memories that you will keep and cherish for years to come.

Each time slot is 30 minutes long and you will find no more than 5 in your photo session. Siblings are also welcome but must be booked in at a discounted price of 50% off the session fee.

We offer a variety of different style of shots such as the 'Naked Nirvana' and 'Fairy Princess'. We have a lovely selection of costumes your baby/toddler can wear but you are welcome to bring your own should you prefer.

Family shots are a lovely added extra which allow either one or both parents and/or siblings to be involved in the shot, these are very popular but must be practiced **before the shoot itself** if this is a shot that is important to you.

On the Day

You will be greeted on arrival by a member of the Aquatots Team, they will sign you in and give you your session card – this allows you access to our website within 2 weeks with a unique session code. You will be contacted via email when your photographs are available to view online.

You will be asked to sign a 'Model release form' which will allow ourselves and the photographer the right to use your photographs for promotion and publicity reasons. You are not obliged to agree and this will not affect your photo shoot. Aquatots will never sell your images to a third party. Copyright remains with Starfish Underwater Photography

At the photo session an experienced Aquatots Swimming Teacher **which may not be your usual teacher** will ensure your baby is comfortable in the water and will swim your baby for you. In order for your photo shoot to run smoothly, your child must be comfortable with strangers. If your child is going through a 'clingy' phase and does not like being held by somebody else, it is recommended that you wait for the next shoot.

If at any time YOU as the parent would prefer to submerge your baby, please just ask. Our aim is to give you and your baby the best photo experience possible.

Helpful hints and tips to get the most out of your photo session

*Aiming for a relaxed session for both parent and child
is key to a successful photo shoot.*

Being realistic about your photo session is crucial. Babies can pull funny faces, squint their eyes, flap their hands and stick their tongues out under the water - once your baby is underwater we have no control over this.

Please arrive 15 minutes before your allocated time slot to allow for registration and changing.

Our photographer will be wearing a dive mask, as some children may feel uncomfortable seeing this for the first time we will ensure dive masks are available at your swimming lessons before your photo shoot for you to utilise to familiarise your child with them.

If you wear mascara please make sure its waterproof mascara! If you have long hair and you are intending to go under the water during your session, this can look lovely if it is allowed to flow freely but please keep it tied up until then.

For family shots please practise exhaling before going under the water, smiling underwater and not wearing goggles underwater before your photo shoot, this is vital for us to get the best shots possible. **We can arrange you in the best position but we have no control of your facial movements and whether you can keep your eyes open under the water.** Please discuss with the Aquatots office beforehand if you need any advice.

Health & Safety

As you would at your normal Aquatots session, ensure you and your child shower before getting in. (Please do not put any body lotion on in the morning as this will affect the water clarity)

Babies who are not potty trained should still be 'double-bagged' for the photo session, except for the 'naked shots' which we schedule for the end of your session.

Our Photographer takes multiple shots of your child with every submersion to capture those precious memories. Your child's safety and well-being is our main concern so it is important to remember submerging can be tiring for them. We will limit the number of submersions to 5 per session in order to keep baby happy.

Viewing, Purchasing and Storing your Photographs

You will be contacted via email when your photographs are available to view.

You will need your unique session code to log onto your photo shoot via our website.

Photographs will be available for viewing within 2 weeks of the photo shoot.

Purchased digital images will be emailed to you on the next working day. Photographic prints are normally sent out within 5 working days. Other photo products may have a longer delivery date – please check details associated with your required purchase for further information.

The colour of finished prints may differ from its internet version. This is due to colour shifts between differently setup computer screens.

Prints need to be kept at room temperature, displayed behind glass or Plexiglas, away from heat and direct sunlight or the life of the print will be reduced.

Once a digital image has been purchased you have the right to use it how you wish.

Aquatots do not accept any responsibility for photographs or products once you have taken delivery of them.

A little touch of magic

Sometimes pictures need a sprinkling of magic.

When the baby handler is in the shot, they can be edited out of your finished Image in most cases. Additional Photoshop work can be quoted for on an individual basis.

Please request any photoshop work at the time of ordering

