

WORLD FIRST INTERNATIONAL SWIM
SCHOOLS CONFERENCES TO BE HELD ON
THE GOLD COAST IN 2018

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The Australian Swim Schools Association (ASSA) has created a world first, pulling together four events to be based around its annual National Conference in 2018 on the Gold Coast. As with its inaugural event in 2016, ASSA will be partnering with the biennial Splash! Expo – being held on 1st and 2nd August, with the Australian Swim Schools Conference leading into it from the 30th July to 1st August 2018. 2018 will also see the Swim Schools event followed on the 1st and 2nd August by the World Infant Aquatics Conference – the world’s leading event covering the teaching of infants and toddlers to swim. Looking forward to the events, ASSA Chief Executive Ross Gage explains “this brings together the leading exponents of teaching babies and toddlers swimming and water safety skills from around the globe. “The focus will not only be on skill development, but also the many cognitive, social and emotional benefits accruing from quality early years swimming - as evidenced in the four year Griffith University study.”* The fourth event in 2018 will be a Tour of Swim Schools in Sydney, preceding the Conferences. Gage added “from experience, the vast majority of overseas attendees of our events fly in via Sydney. “This will provide them with an excellent guided opportunity to take in a number of premier Swim Schools and the great city itself.” The 2017 ASSA Conference is being held on Darwin from 21st to 23rd August 2017. *Early Years Swimming, Adding Capital to Young Australians, a four-year study by the Griffith Institute for Educational Research, Laurie Lawrence’s Kids Alive Swim Program and Swim Australia showed that children who swim have many advantages when starting school.

