

# Swimmer in the Spotlight - Nathan Young



## Nathan's Swimming Career –the road to World Deaf Champs & beyond

Nathan started council swimming lessons after he was unable to take part in team sports due to deteriorating hearing and found a sport he loved. From lessons he was asked to join Wallasey Swimming Club & then City of Liverpool, he joined Wirral Metro in 2017.

Nathan struggled joining secondary school and the balance of coping in a hearing world with very little understanding saw Nathan leave both school and swimming. When he returned to swimming, he attended a GB Deaf Swimming Club training camp in Liverpool. Access to the GB Deaf Swimming Club Championships in Loughborough and their autumn training camps has given him the opportunity to train and compete with his deaf peers and has also brought some amazing experiences.

### International Competitions:

#### 4<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Swimming Championships 2015 San Antonio, Texas:

Age 15 Nathan reached his first ever final in the 200 back (youngest in final), which was a stepping stone for many great things to come.



#### 23<sup>rd</sup> Deaflympics 2017 Samsun, Turkey:

Nathan was selected as part of a team of 12 swimmers to represent Great Britain. Nathan won a bronze medal as part of the 4x100 mixed free relay, as well as finishing top 10 in two individual events.



#### European Deaf Swimming Championships 2018 Lublin, Poland:

Nathan made finals in all of his events, coming 2x6<sup>th</sup> & 3x7<sup>th</sup> places.

### GB Deaf Swimming Club

Nathan has gained multiple age group & numerous British and English records:



British		English	
SC	LC	SC	LC
100 BACK	50 FLY	50 FREE	50 FLY
50 FLY	100 FLY	100 FREE	100 FLY
200 FLY		200 FREE	
		100 BACK	
		50 FLY	
		100 FLY	

## 5<sup>th</sup> World Deaf Swimming Champs, Brazil 2019

This year has been a difficult one for Nathan.

Deafness is the only disability sport not supported by UK Government, something Nathan is hoping to change very soon.

With deaf athletes being separated from Paralympics the government policy for sports funding neglects deaf athletes.

Nathan had to make the decision to be the only athlete representing GB in Brazil and had no choice but to raise the money himself,

which his fellow deaf athletes have been unable to do. His fundraising & GoFundMe page [#getnathantobrazil](#) has raised ~£3000 for Nathans trip and also to cover the expense of a coach. Thanks to everyone for their support and donations.

He flies out on 20<sup>th</sup> of August and has everything crossed for success!



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