

Orchard Community Primary School



Policy for Swimming 2017-18

This plan was reviewed by the Curriculum and Pastoral Committee on 15.5.18

It was accepted by Governors on 15.5.18

Signed V. Jones Chair of Governors

Rationale

Swimming is a life-skill which promotes health and fitness and is a recreation which can be enjoyed throughout life. The ability to swim to safety may save a child's life.

Swimming within Key Stage 1 and/or 2 is a requirement of the National Curriculum 2014.

Aims of the Teaching of Swimming at Orchard School.

- To enable children to develop and explore physical skills with increasing stamina and co-ordination.
- To enable children to develop their confidence in the water by developing the ability to rest, float and adopt support positions.
- For all children to be water confident and to be able to swim 25 metres
- To develop efficient swimming strokes on the front and back;
- To have knowledge of the principles of water safety and to learn the appropriate skills

Venue Requirements

Swimming Lessons in KS2 require a pool which is deep enough to allow taller children to swim comfortably but has enough shallow water to allow children to work within their depth.

The venue needs to meet the school's safeguarding standards and changing facilities should be separated from adult changing facilities and be able to be supervised by school staff.

The venue should be easily accessible within 30 minutes travelling time.

It would be helpful if equipment could be hired from the site.

The venue available for 2017-18 and 18-19 is Ashby Grammar School.

The pool is contained within its own unit and has private changing facilities which can be easily supervised by male or female members of staff. It is booked for single school use throughout term time.

Curriculum Requirements

The National Curriculum 2014 makes swimming a compulsory subject at either key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2 so that every child has the opportunity to learn to:

- swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres
- use a range of strokes effectively [for example, front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke]
- perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations

School Swimming Organisation

Swimming is currently offered to children in Years 3 and 5 and our primary aim is to ensure that all children can swim 25 metres and have an understanding of water safety before they reach Year 6. Organisation may change as the needs of the children change but it is expected that children who are competent swimmers in Year 5 will swim for at least 2 sessions in which they learn some basic water-safety skills. Children who are weak swimmers will have the opportunity to swim for at least a whole term. The children will swim in small groups based on their swimming ability. In the Spring term, children in Year 3 will be assessed. The children will be divided into three groups and each group will have a series of swimming lessons dependent upon need.

Swimming Teachers

The school will hire the appropriate number of Professional swimming teachers from the Swim School. These teachers also hold lifeguarding certificates. The member of staff who accompanies the small group will also remain on the poolside and act as a 'spotter'.

Charges for swimming

As swimming is a requirement of the National Curriculum 2014 PE and Sport Curriculum, there will be no charge made for swimming lessons. Parents will be asked for a voluntary contribution towards the cost of transport. Transport will be provided by Castle Donington Volunteer Bureau. At present, the cost to parents is £4.40 per week but this will be reviewed regularly and will reflect changes to the amount charged by the Volunteer Bureau.

Responsibilities

The Governors are responsible for ensuring swimming is provided as part of the National Curriculum 2014.

The Headteacher is responsible for the organisation and timetabling of swimming and the deployment of staff.

A member of staff who knows the children well is responsible for the behaviour and safety of the group of children who are going swimming. This responsibility extends on the bus, at the pool and while the children are changing. The member of school staff supports the swimming teachers in maintaining good discipline in the pool and ensuring all pool rules are followed.

The member of staff supervises the children changing in the individual cubicles on the poolside and then acts as an additional spotter on the poolside.

The swimming teachers are responsible for planning and delivering swimming lessons, leading water safety lessons, and ensuring poolside and pool safety. The swimming teachers are responsible for assessing pupils' learning and awarding certificates. The swimming teachers are also required to act as lifeguards if the group is small and are responsible for the deployment of lifeguards if the size of the group or the activity warrants it.

Safeguarding

The children will change in the individual cubicles. If the cubicles are not available, the children will change in the male and female changing rooms. Staff are able to supervise at a distance but should ensure they are close enough to maintain good order.

All staff who accompany children to swimming are DBS checked, as are the swimming teachers and the bus drivers. If a parent is invited to accompany the group to act as spotters or to support children getting changed, they should also be DBS checked.

Emergency Contacts

In an emergency, both swimming teachers could be used for supervision.

The pool is within the grounds of Ashby School and help could be summoned from the School Reception.

The member of staff accompanying swimming should always carry a mobile phone to summon assistance. A 'phone call to Orchard School could provide a member of staff within 20 minutes if necessary.