

POLICY ON SWIMMING**Aims/Purposes**

- To enable pupils to acquire basic swimming skills while they are at Tibohine National School
- To comply with the requirements of the Revised Curriculum in aquatics.

Rationale

The school has regard to both the physical and mental development of each of its pupils. Believing that a healthy body promotes a healthy mind, the school arranges for a 6 weeks course of swimming instruction in the Aura Leitrim Leisure swimming pool for each of its students in 2nd to 6th class during the school year.

Procedures Guidelines

- Each pupil will attend a 6 week session in a swimming pool annually from 2nd – 6th class
- Lessons at Aura Leitrim Leisure swimming pool have been reserved for six weeks on agreed day and time
- Attendance at this course fulfils the Aquatics Module of the PE Curriculum as laid down by the Department of Education and parents defray the cost of the course and also that of the transport to and from the pool. If a parent is unable to do this, the board will offer to defray the cost for them.
- Should a child be unable to attend the course, due to ill health or any other reason, he/she will remain in school under the supervision of another class teacher/ staff member.

Instructional Arrangements

- A member of staff, will organize the swimming programme for all classes from second to sixth
- Instruction in the pool will be provided by a trained coach
- Teachers of all classes should remain on the viewing deck during the lesson in order to supervise the overall group and pupils who may need to use the toilets during the lesson.

Roles and Responsibilities**Pupils**

- All children attending the course should wear their tracksuit. (Swimming togs may be worn under tracksuits coming to school). Each child must have a suitable bag to carry his/her swimming gear (Sports bag or similar with secure zip or other fastening).
- All items brought to the pool must be clearly labelled with the child's name.
- Each child must have their own togs (without pockets), towel, hair brush and swim cap, all of which must also be marked.
- Be mindful of their own privacy and respect the privacy of others. Comply with school and swimming pool rules.
- Expectations will be adjusted in relation to children with Special Educational Needs

Parents

Parents will:

- Understand that swimming lessons are part of the Primary Curriculum and, therefore, all children are expected to participate fully. Children will only be exempt for medical reasons. In such instances parents are advised to inform the school principal in writing.
- Support the work of the teacher by encouraging their child to participate fully in the learning activities relating to the aquatics strand in the classroom and in the swimming pool.
- Teach their child the necessary personal care skills needed for attending swimming lessons, e.g. drying their bodies, dressing themselves, repacking their bag, etc

- Assist their children in organizing the necessary swimming gear, e.g. swim wear, goggles, towel, etc.

Travel and Supervision Arrangements

- Pupils will be accompanied by and supervised by their class teacher and SNA (where applicable) on the way to and from the pool.
 - In the event that parents are required to assist the class teachers, they will help in the overall management of pupils and not individual pupils.
 - All children will travel by bus to the pool and class teacher will provide supervision before and after the swimming lesson.
 - Pupils will return to school after swimming and are to be collected by parents from school at normal time.
 - In the event that a child is to be dropped off/ collected by a parent/ guardian for an appointment or family emergency, the class teacher must be informed.

Health and Safety

Best practice in relation to the supervision, instruction and child protection procedures as outlined by the Irish Sports Council, Swim Ireland and the National Safety Council will be adhered to at all times.

Pupils are required to behave at all times in a manner that ensures the safety of all involved in school swimming.

Parents/guardians will receive information on school swimming before their child starts their swimming term. A consent note, granting permission for a child to participate in swimming must be returned to the class teacher prior to the start of the swimming term.

Where a parent/guardian has a health concern regarding their child's participation in swimming, professional advice must be sought before the child participates in the swimming lesson.

In the best interest of the child, it is the duty of parents/guardians to inform the class teacher and/ or Principal with regard to any health condition that may affect the child in the pool. This information will be held in confidence and provided on a need to know basis to the swimming instructors.

Deodorants etc. must not be brought to the pool as the dressing rooms are confined spaces. The Health and Safety Guidelines outlined by the pool authorities will be strictly adhered to.

Monitoring / Evaluation / Review:

Policy is revised annually or at other times if deemed necessary.

Signed: _____
Principal

Date:

Signed: John W. C.

Date: 26/11/2024