

Yorkley Primary School

SWIMMING POLICY

Policy status

Recommended

Purpose:

At Yorkley Primary School we aim to enable all our pupils to experience as much swimming as possible during school time, in order for them to become competent, confident swimmers, with a strong desire to continue swimming and maintain a healthy life-style in later life.

Roles and Responsibilities of the school:

- To transport children safely to and from the leisure centre for lessons.
- To ensure the welfare of all children: in the changing rooms, at poolside, while swimming or showering/changing.
- To maintain good behaviour of all pupils at all times.
- Adhere to Health and Safety requirements, including marking of registers.
- Confirm attendance levels and any relevant medical information with additional swimming teacher(s).
- Make arrangements for all children, including those with special educational needs. Risk assessment to be completed where necessary.
- Provide school teaching staff with a minimum qualification of 'Fundamentals of School swimming' which is an online course provided by the ASA.

The role of the swimming teacher:

- To organise classes according to numbers of teachers/helpers, class numbers and pupil ability.
- Ensure all children know the procedure for start/end of lesson, their grouping and assigned area of the pool and teacher
- Give plans to accompanying teacher so that they know what work is to be covered.
- Provide lesson notes for each teacher and group.
- Have all equipment ready and in the correct place in the teaching area.
- Ensure all children and teachers know the safety drills.
- Manage the behaviour of children in their own group and apply a range of techniques to manage behaviour issues.
- Organise patterns for working.
- Make best use of available space using dividing ropes where appropriate.

Group ratios:

- Non swimmers 12-1
- Under the age of seven 12-1
- Age 7-11 middle and competent swimmers 20-1

The role of Leisure Centre Staff:

- To teach the children the emergency drill and practise with them regularly.
- To teach the children how to attract the teacher's attention by shouting or waving.
- Lifeguard and instructors will have a whistle at all times to be used strictly as a safety aid, not a teaching aid.
- Special arrangements need to be made for hearing-impaired children (flashing lights or buddy system).
- The whistle drill for the pool should be in accordance with the drill in the pool's Normal Operating Procedures and Emergency Operating Procedures.

The recommended emergency drill procedure is:

One short blast - call the attention of pool users i.e. swimmers.

Two short blasts - call the attention of another life guard.

Three short blasts- indicate that a lifeguard is taking emergency action.

One long blast - all pupils to climb out of the pool immediately and sit/stand by the nearest wall.

The lifeguard nearest to the incident effects the necessary action. The accompanying teachers are responsible for the children on the pool side. If a lifeguard enters the water, the remaining pupils should be taken into the changing rooms. Pupils should be taught the meaning of one short blast and one long blast, as these are the most important signals for the pupils. Clear procedures to ensure all staff, helpers and pupils are confident with what to do in an emergency.

Lesson Organisation by all teachers on poolside:

- Ensure children are familiar with routine procedures when entering the pool area (they should know where to line up sit or stand).
- No child should enter the pool until told to do so.
- Staff are expected to promote positive behaviour at all times.
- Appropriate provision will be made to support pupils in the water where their need indicates.
- The instructor and teacher will need to adopt a position on the poolside so that all pupils in her or his care are constantly visible.

Pupils should be taught to:

- Set a sensible pace for floating and swimming challenges related to speed, distance and personal survival.
- Swim unaided for a sustained period over a distance of at least 25m.
- Use recognised arm and leg actions lying on front and back.
- Use a range of recognised strokes and personal survival skills (for example front crawl, breaststroke, sculling, floating and surface diving).
- Wear appropriate swim wear (one piece costume for girls, swim shorts for boys).
- Tie long hair up or wear a swimming cap.
- Understand the swimming pool is a place of work and should be treated as a classroom with the same rules regarding behaviour.
- Not run, jump or dive.

Arrival and Departure

- Children will be transported to the school in accordance with the school visits policy.
- Pupils will be the responsibility of school staff at all times.
- Children should always enter and leave the swimming pool area under supervision and be counted in and out of the school / leisure centre by a member of school staff.

In the Changing Rooms

- Encourage good behaviour at all times to ensure the safety and well being of the pupils. This will set the tone for the lesson.
- No jewellery of any kind is to be worn in the pool except Medi-Alert bracelets.
- Children to use the toilet if needed before entering pool.
- Pupils to shower before entering and after exiting the pool.
- Supervision and changing of pupils should be undertaken by school staff or helpers (DBS checked) preferably of the same gender.
- Whenever this is not possible, clearly understood procedures must be put in place for staff.
- No members of the public should be adjacent to pupils. They must have separate areas.
- No food or drink to be consumed in changing areas.
- No talcum powder or aerosols to be used in the changing rooms.

Goggles

ASA guidelines state no goggles; however, it is recognised that for some children not wearing goggles is a barrier. For these children with permission, goggles may be allowed.

- Only goggles that meet the British Standard are allowed.
- The child must have received adequate instructions on how to fit and adjust goggles.

- Teachers will not be responsible for fitting goggles.

Links with other policies:

- Safeguarding and Child protection.
- Special educational Needs and Disability.
- Supporting pupils with medical conditions.
- Educational Visits
- First Aid

Policy Review

Compiled by: **Mrs P James and Mr P Tomley**

Agreed by Governors **January 2017** Date for review: **January 2019**