



Swimming Policy 2021/2022

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Approved by:	L & A Committee
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Phillimore Primary School is proud to be signed up as a member of the Swim England Swimming School Charter. Swimming is a life skill and is part of the Physical Education and Healthy Lifestyles programme. Swimming instruction will be provided to all children in Year 4 as part of the Y4 PE programme. During 2021/22, due to the impact of the pandemic, Y5 and Y6 pupils will also receive swimming lessons. Children will be taught about water safety, strokes and core aquatic skills in line with the current guidelines stated in the National Curriculum.

In particular children will be taught to:-

- Swim confidently, competently 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

How we organise Swimming

Pupils at Phillimore Primary School attend one swimming lesson per week all year in Year 4. Each lesson lasts 40 minutes of learning time in the pool. Additional swimming lessons have been offered to other year groups in the past as either early intervention or top up. Children are transported to the swimming baths via The Ashley Travel Coach Company and all coaches have seatbelts. An external provider plans and delivers the swimming lessons in conjunction with the PE co-ordinator. Three qualified swimming instructors with life guarding qualifications deliver the swimming curriculum supported by school staff from within the water.

All children are expected to attend swimming lessons unless they are excluded on medical grounds as a result of a doctor's letter which has been authorised by the head teacher. Non-swimmers on the day will be required to attend where they will be encouraged to participate in the learning from pool side. Phillimore Primary School takes the learning of swimming seriously.

Risk Assessments/Individual Action plans are completed before any child attends the lessons. This will ensure that the swimming providers have specialised equipment (if necessary) and that the changing room facilities are suitable for all children's needs. School staff attending swimming lessons will be aware of all children's additional needs/action plans and this information where appropriate is given to external staff employed at the swimming pool.

All planned activities are differentiated to suit individual needs and swimming lessons are mainly games based in line with Swim England Awards with cross curricular links where possible. All children are continuously assessed on their swimming ability in all areas and when they are proficient, competent and confident then assessment is recorded. Certificates/badges are presented to children during whole school assemblies and children may also achieve school swimming certificates for particular achievements and progression. Class teachers take

swimming folders to the pool containing information regarding to ILPs, assessment and school/swimming pool operating procedures.

Expectations regarding behaviour is the same as in the classroom at school. Children will provide their own swimming costumes/trunks when attending swimming lessons. Shorts/trunks need to be above knee height and swimming costumes need to be tight fitting and cover the body appropriately. Bikinis and tankinis are not allowed. Long hair must be tied up and swimming caps can be worn. Goggles (meeting British Standards Institution) can be worn if the appropriate parental permission slip is received by the school and parents have taught their children how to put the googles on and take them off safely. Wearing goggles may make a child feel comfortable in the pool when learning to swim but if they accidentally fall into water outside, it is likely they will not be wearing them. It is vital therefore that children are comfortable swimming with or without goggles so they do not panic in an unexpected situation. To do this they need to learn to swim without goggles. The quality of the water at the swimming pool is such that it is not necessary for children to wear goggles at all. For medical and other associated reasons some children need to wear prescription goggles. If a child fails to bring their own swimming kit, a school kit will be provided. Tight fitting legging and t-shirts maybe worn under swimming costumes to meet cultural requirements if necessary although beginners find swimming in many clothes more difficult.

Staff must wear appropriate sportswear when attending swimming lessons and when entering the pool, must wear swimwear which is covered with a t-shirt and shorts.

All staff are fully aware of the Pool Operating Procedures and their Emergency Action Plan (see separate EAP). Staff are aware of swimming ratios when teaching in the pool to ensure high quality swimming lessons take place.