

**PACKINGTON CHURCH OF ENGLAND PRIMARY
SCHOOL**



Swimming Policy

January 2018

***'Together we can achieve more – with Jesus as our
guiding light!'***



THE VISION AND VALUES OF THE SCHOOL

Our Vision

We want Packington to be a school where:

- everyone flourishes through the guidance of Jesus Christ.
- our Christian values make a positive impact on our lives.
- we all want to be the best we can be.
- the children make outstanding progress and are ready for life.
- the learning and teaching is fun, imaginative, engaging and motivational.
- you can be happy, safe and healthy and grow spiritually.
- we all work well together.
- relationships are positive and our children have outstanding social skills, excellent cultural development and understand how to make the right choices.
- the leaders and managers are excellent practitioners and contribute to the educational community.



So that...

‘When children leave us they are compassionate, self-confident with a love of life and learning.’

The Bible verse that sets this vision in context is John 10:10 “I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.” For it is the flourishing in the grace of God that will enable our children to be wise, hopeful, live well together with dignity and respect in God’s world.

*It is a vision that is inclusive to all as we are reminded in the words of Luke 18:16:
“But Jesus called them to him, saying, “Let the children come to me, and do not hinder them, for to such belongs the kingdom of God.”
For we are all equal in the eyes of God.*

Our Christian Values

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|---------------------|---|
| Thankfulness | <i>“Always be thankful.” - 1 Thessalonians 5.16</i> |
| Peace | <i>“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they shall be called children of God.” - Matthew 5.9</i> |
| Forgiveness | <i>“Just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you must also forgive us.” - Colossians 3.13</i> |
| Endurance | <i>“I can do all things through Him who strengthens me.”- Philippians 4.13</i> |
| Justice | <i>“Learn to do right. Seek justice.” - Isaiah 1.17</i> |
| Friendship | <i>“Encourage one another and build each other up.”- 1 Thessalonians 5.11</i> |
| Trust | <i>“My God is my strength in whom I trust.”- Psalm 18.2</i> |
| Compassion | <i>“Clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience.” - Colossians 3.12</i> |



Packington Church of England Primary School Swimming Policy

Why we provide swimming lessons at Packington Church of England Primary School

- To enable pupils to flourish and become confident learners;
- To meet the requirements of the National Curriculum;
- All schools must provide swimming instruction either in key stage 1 or key stage 2. In particular, pupils should be taught 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 (we use a structured approach to teach water safety using guidelines and strategies from the ASA Swimming Charter.
- To develop the personal and social development of children and their health and well-being;
- To promote a valuable life skill

How we will organise swimming at Packington Church of England Primary School

At Packington swimming is taught in accordance with the National Curriculum. Swimming instruction will be provided in years 2, 3, 4, 5, 6 and is organised in the following way:

Autumn Term 1 - Swimming for pupils in Years 3/ 4

Autumn Term 2 - No swimming

Spring Term 1 - Swimming for pupils in years 5/6

Spring Term 2 - Swimming for pupils in Years 3/ 4

Summer Term 1 - No swimming

Summer Term 2 - Swimming for pupils in Year 2 and for pupils requiring further support in order to be able to swim 25 m by the end of Year 6

Swimming lessons last approximately 30 minutes and count as one of the classes' weekly PE lesson.

Families will be written to for permission for their child to go swimming and a subsidised voluntary contribution will be asked for.

Our swimming instructors will assess the ability of each child and place them in a teaching group to extend their skills in all areas of water confidence and swimming. Children are transported to the Ashby School swimming pool in Ashby de la Zouch by coach.

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

The role of the member of staff in charge:

- The welfare of children in changing room;
- Overall maintenance of good discipline;
- Counting children into and out of the building and recording these numbers so that they are visible;
- Marking the attendance register;
- Ensuring the water safety of all children and maintain a safe working environment;
- Confirm attendance levels and any relevant medical information with the swimming instructors;
- Make arrangements to be made about the provision for children with special needs and confirm risk assessment;
- Adhere to health and safety requirements;

The role of adult helpers:

- The welfare of children in changing room or where relevant the appropriate welfare of a specific child in the changing room. Supervision and oversight of designated child, ensuring the child understands and follows instructions.
- Consult with the member of staff in charge and agree arrangements to be made about the provision for children with special needs and confirm risk assessment.
- Adhere to health and safety requirements.

The role of the PE subject leader:

- To undertake a risk assessment of the school's swimming provision and monitor its implementation;
- To ensure that the law relating to SEND is followed whereby schools take all reasonable steps to avoid discriminating against pupils on the grounds of their disability.
- To maintain and keep a record of the pupils' swimming achievements inside and outside of school.
- To report to the governing body on the impact of the school's swimming provision.
- Ensure the recommended teacher ratios are adhered to. (See Appendix 2)
- To ensure annual briefing sessions take place with all staff involved with swimming provision.

The swimming instructor will:

- Possess DBS clearance.
- Have full ASA Teachers Award or an STA equivalent as well as a life-saving award recognised by Health and Safety Unit.

- Possess a relevant First Aid certificate.
- Make sure all children and teachers know safety drills.
- Have all equipment ready and in the correct place in the teaching area.
- Consult with the accompanying teacher and agree arrangements to be made about the provision for children with special needs and confirm risk assessment.
- Ensure children know the procedure for the start/end of lesson, their grouping and assigned area of pool and teacher.
- To assess and record pupil progress.
- Organise classes according to: a) Class numbers. b) Pupil ability. C) Numbers of teachers/adult helpers

HEALTH AND SAFETY

It is essential that schools take note of and comply with 'Safe Practice in Physical Education' [BAALPE] which provides detailed, authoritative guidance on safety issues, including safety in swimming lessons and the DfE guidelines on educational visits. 'The duty of care for all pupils remains at all times with the accompanying teacher.' (BAALPE Safe Practice in Physical Education) All staff involved with swimming provision will have read the relevant BAALPE documentation.

When supervising children changing or assisting them with their swimming, pool and school staff should avoid physical contact with children unless it is:

- essential to develop a swimming skill or technique
- to treat an injury
- to prevent an injury
- to meet the requirement of the activity (e.g. Lifesaving)
- to lift or manually support a child with disabilities

In these circumstances the adult should explain the reason for the physical contact to the child. Unless the situation is an emergency the adult should ask the child for permission. If children have disabilities, they and their families need to be involved in deciding what assistance should be offered and the child should be treated with dignity and respect.

Where children sustain an injury and any first aid is administered parents should be informed as soon as possible. Details should be recorded and retained by the school.

Behaviour

The swimming pool is a place of work and should be treated as a classroom with the same rules regarding behaviour.

Pool Rules

The pool rules should be explained to all pupils before their first swimming lesson. Pupils should be reminded at the start of each term, ideally when the emergency procedures are tested and checked with pupils.

- never go onto poolside until a member of staff is present
- do not enter the water until instructed to do so
- no running on poolside
- no chewing gum or eating sweets or other food on poolside
- no shouting or whistling
- no jumping in or diving in, except under instruction
- no pushing others in
- no holding others under the water or deliberately splashing them
- no jewellery to be worn
- no outdoor shoes on poolside
- swim caps to be worn if requested
- to leave the pool on one long blast of the whistle
- all instructions from staff to be obeyed promptly

Attendance

All parents must ensure that their children attend all allocated lessons. As swimming is a statutory part of the National Curriculum. Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from this statutory element of the National Curriculum, unless the child has an EHCP (Education Health Care Plan). Furthermore, pupils cannot be withdrawn from swimming just because they are already able to swim 25 metres. However, where a pupil swims at an exceptionally high standard e.g they are a member of a county squad and train most days as part of an organised programme then governors may consider a request for withdrawal from school swimming lessons. Parents must write to governors in advance of the swimming sessions with proof of the standard of swimming and with information about the swimming timetable or programme that their child is involved in. Parents wishing to withdraw for a medical reason will be asked to provide a doctor's letter or other appropriate evidence. Where a request is for a single session then parents should complete the request to be excused from PE form available in the entrance hall. If permission to withdrawal from swimming is not granted and the pupil still does not attend, then it will be noted on the pupil's end of year report that they did not attend and where relevant it will be noted that they have not completed the programme of study and/or met national curriculum guidelines. This information will be passed on to the pupil's feeder school. The school will monitor patterns of withdrawal from swimming as this may signal a safeguarding concern.

Older children are encouraged to be independent in terms of organising their swimming kits.

Children who forget their swimming kits or cannot participate in the lesson for any reason will be required to attend and observe the lessons from the side of the pool. This is in line with the other aspects of the PE curriculum delivery.

Parents of children returning from an illness that would prevent them from swimming for a short period of time must provide the school with medical evidence of the illness in order that they may be excused from the lesson. Should a child not be able to swim for an extended period of time, a Doctor's letter must be provided.

Any pupil with an asthma inhaler must take it to the poolside.

Swimming Kit

Girls should wear a one-piece swimsuit and boys should wear swimming trunks (not baggy 'board shorts'). All children with shoulder length or longer hair should ensure that their hair is tied up and wear a swim hat. Provision will be made for alternative attire for minority ethnic pupils when a request is made. We do not encourage beginner swimmers to wear goggles. Please see the exemplar parent information letter below (Appendix 1): Teachers should wear suitable indoor footwear and clothes suitable for humidity when working at the swimming pool.

Appendix 1:

CHILDREN WHO WISH TO WEAR GOGGLES IN A SCHOOL SWIMMING LESSON

Goggles are not needed for everyday swimming. It should be remembered that in the event of your child being involved in a hazardous water situation it is extremely unlikely that he/she would be wearing goggles. It is highly desirable therefore that your child learns to swim without being dependent on goggles.

Goggles may cause injuries even resulting in blindness if a child is knocked on the goggles when swimming or diving or putting them on and removing them. Goggles do not keep all water out of the eyes. Goggles often steam up for the first few minutes after putting them on. School swimming lessons usually last for about 30 minutes. The children swim in large numbers and sometimes in crowded conditions. Beginners do not always have full control of arm and leg movements. These factors may increase the possibility of being hit on the goggles. Goggles are held in place by tight elastic and are made of hard plastic.

The use of goggles is advisable only when there is excessive reaction to the chemicals in the water and where the swimmer is involved in lengthy training sessions. In these cases goggles may reduce the effect of contact of the eyes with the water a little. If goggles are used they should not be made of glass or breakable plastic. It is recommended that such goggles be purchased from a recognised sports equipment retailer or from local baths/leisure centres. Your child will need to be taught how to put on and remove the goggles and how to empty the water out safely:- "The goggles must be held firmly with both hands each gripping the outside corner where the straps

are attached. The goggles must then be pushed upwards and NEVER pulled out away from the face."If you wish your child to wear goggles in the school swimming lessons please make this request in writing to the school.

GOGGLES

I, as parent/guardian of

I acknowledge that I have received and read the notes of Advice To Parents Whose Children Wish To Wear Goggles In A School Swimming Lesson.

SignedDate.....

Appendix 2:

Group sizes - Pupil/ Teacher Ratios

Children under the age of 7: Maximum pupil : teacher ratio = 10 : 1

Children aged 7 - 11: Maximum pupil : teacher ratio = 20 : 1 (The ratio may change for children with specific needs.)