

Ridgeway Infant School
'A safe, happy school where everyone does their best!'
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Acting Headteacher: Mrs T Dale



Thursday 29th November 2018

Dear Parents and Carers of Ridgeway Infant School

Re: Swimming Lessons

As the Governing Body of Ridgeway Infant School we are writing to you regarding the swimming contributions made by parents and carers. As I am sure you will appreciate, we are very fortunate to be able to offer swimming lessons to our pupils and are one of the few Infant schools in Derby that do so. Compared to independent swimming lessons these offer excellent value for money as they are charged at a considerably reduced rate. Learning to swim has the benefit of giving your child the opportunity to gain confidence in water and learn a lifesaving skill.

As a Governing Body we regularly review the budget of the school and have noticed that contributions by parents and carers continue to decrease. **One third** of parents/carers have failed to make a contribution towards their child's lessons this year so far despite reminders being sent. This is equivalent to a whole class in the year group. The school are then having to find the shortfall from funds which could have been spent on resources for classrooms and teaching.

With significant cuts to school budgets it has come to the point where it is no longer sustainable. You may recall last year we had to cancel swimming on Thursday due to lack of contributions. If we do not receive enough contributions from parents/carers we will be forced to cancel current swimming arrangements on Friday's too. This is not a decision we will take lightly but out of necessity. We will review the position again in the New Year to see whether contributions have increased and inform you of our final decision.

Yours sincerely

The Governing Body at Ridgeway Infant School