



**Scoil Náisúnta Phádraig Naofa,
Avoca,
Co. Wicklow.
18198A**

POLICY ON SWIMMING

Aims/Purposes

- To enable pupils to acquire basic swimming skills while they are at Scoil N. Phádraig Naofa, Avoca
- The school has regard to both the physical and mental development of its pupils. Believing that a healthy body promotes a healthy mind, the school arranges swimming lessons for selected classes.
- To comply with the requirements of the Revised Curriculum in aquatics.

Procedures Guidelines

- Each pupil will attend a 5/6 week session in a swimming pool annually from Second Class and 3rd classes.
- The swimming pool at Coral Leisure Centre has been reserved for six weeks on Thursdays from 10.00 p.m. – 11.00 p.m
- Costs incurred by hiring of pool, and payment of instructors necessitate a charge of €45 being imposed on each pupil.

Instructional Arrangements

- The Principal will organize the swimming programme for all classes from Second Class and 3rd classes.
- Instruction in the pool will be provided by the appropriate number of coaches (Ratio 1/11)

Travel and Supervision Arrangements

Pupils will be accompanied by and supervised by the class teacher and teacher's assistant on the way to the pool from the school. The class teachers will provide supervision before and after the swimming lesson. Parent volunteers with current Garda vetting will assist the teachers in the supervision of the changing rooms.

Health and Safety

Best practice in relation to the supervision, instruction and child protection procedures as outlined by the Children First Act 2015, Child Protection Procedures for Primary and Post Primary Schools 2017 and the Children First National Guidance 2017.

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 a standard letter providing information on school swimming before their child starts their 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.

The Health and Safety Guidelines outlined by the pool authorities will be strictly adhered to.

Procedures

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. This includes the bag, tracksuit, socks, underwear and shoes.

Each child must have their own togs, towel, hair brush and swim cap, all of which must also be marked.

While in the pool, pupils must endeavour to obey the instructor's orders at all times and comply with the School Code of Conduct.

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.

Monitoring / Evaluation / Review:

This policy was ratified at the Board of Management meeting on 11/5/19.

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

Signed:

Marian Canavan _____
(Chairperson, Board of Management)

Mary Cahill _____
Principal

Date: