

Scoil Bhríde N.S.
Ballyboy



Swimming Policy

Swimming Policy of Scoil Bhríde

Ballyboy,
Kilcormac,
Co. Offaly
R42 Y840

Website: ballyboyns@weebly.com

Roll Number: 18399K

Patron Catholic Diocese of Meath: Bishop Tom Deenihan

Aims/Purposes

- To enable pupils to acquire basic swimming skills while they are at Scoil Bhríde, National School
- To comply with the requirements of the Revised Curriculum in aquatics.

Rationale

- The school has regard to both the physical and mental development of each of its pupils. Believing that a healthy body promotes a healthy mind, the school arranges a six-week course of swimming instruction in Birr Swimming Pool for third to sixth class students during the school year.

Procedures & Guidelines

- Each pupil will attend a 6-week session in a swimming pool annually from third class to sixth class.
- The swimming pool at Birr Leisure Centre has been reserved for six weeks.
- Attendance at this course fulfils the Aquatics Module of the PE Curriculum as laid down by the Department of Education
- Parents will pay a contribution towards the cost of the course and also that of the transport to and from the pool. The Parents Committee will subsidize the cost of the course and transportation.
- All children are encouraged to participate in aquatics lessons as part of the National Curriculum. Should a child be unable to attend aquatics, due to a medical condition, a letter must be written to the Board of Management requesting exemption. They must remain in the school and will be supervised in another classroom with work assigned to them by their own teacher. Which class they will go to is left to the discretion of the principal taking Health and Safety into consideration.
- Should a child be unable to participate in one lesson due to ill health or any other reason, a letter must be given to the class teacher. The child may still travel to the pool and be supervised by the class teacher.
- Pupils will be accompanied by and supervised by a staff teacher on the way to the pool from the school. Pupils will travel by coach to the pool and the staff teacher will provide supervision before and after the swimming lesson. In the event that a child is to be collected from the pool by a parent/guardian, a letter/note must be sent to inform the class teacher.
- All children attending the course should wear their school tracksuit. (Swimming togs may be worn under school 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).
- Children are expected to dress and undress themselves at the pool.
- 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, hairbrush and swim cap, all of which must also be marked.
- No valuables, money or jewellery are to be brought to the pool or on the coach. Spectacles are the only exception to this rule.

- In the dressing room school staff supervise the children. One adult will not be supervising the children on their own at any time.
- Best practice in relation to the supervision, instruction and child protection procedures as outlined by the Irish Sports Council, Swim Ireland and the National Safety Council will be adhered to at all times. Staff will follow the guidelines of our own Health & Safety and Child Protection policies at all times.
- Pupils are required to behave at all times in a manner that ensures the safety of all involved in the school swimming. Pupils must endeavour to obey the instructor's orders at all times and comply with the School Code of Behaviour.
- Parents/guardians will receive a standard letter providing information on school swimming before their child starts their swimming term.
- Teachers/SNAs should remain in the viewing area during the lesson in order to supervise the overall group.
- When children need to use the toilet, it is the school policy that they must seek their instructor's permission before they leave the pool.

Chairperson: Catherine Buckley

Date: 21/4/2023

Principal: Grace Hudson

Date: 13/06/2023