



St. Patrick's NS Strangsmills

Swimming policy

Devised: 2022

www.strangsmillsns.ie
16875G

Swimming Policy

Aims/Purposes

- To enable pupils to acquire basic swimming skills while they are attending St. Patricks NS
- To comply with the requirements of the Curriculum in aquatics.

Procedures Guidelines

- Each pupil will attend a 5/6 week session in a swimming pool in the senior classes.
- Generally, the swimming lessons will take place in the second half of the school year.
- Costs incurred by hiring of pool, payment of instructors and transport costs necessitate a charge of approximately €40 being imposed on each pupil. Payment may be made in advance or weekly. Inability to pay will not preclude a pupil from participating fully in swimming classes.

Instructional Arrangements

The principal will organise the swimming programme for the relevant classes. Parents will be informed at the beginning of the school year that their child will attend swimming lessons. Instruction in the pool will be provided by qualified instructors.

Travel and Supervision Arrangements

Pupils will travel to the pool by bus. School management will seek the most competitive rate from bus companies to ensure costs are kept as low as possible for parents/guardians. Teachers and any SNA working with the classes involved will travel on the bus with the pupils. While covid regulations apply, all those on the bus will wear masks during transport to and from the pool. Children will also sanitise before entering the bus and when entering and leaving the pool complex. Any child not engaging in swimming lessons will have to be collected from the school for the duration of the lesson, as with current restrictions children cannot be accommodated in other classrooms.

Dressing Rooms

Teachers will accompany pupils to the door of the boys/girls dressing room. Pupils enter the appropriate dressing room and prepare for the swimming lesson. When all pupils have left the dressing room a teacher will knock on the dressing room door, call out that s/he is going to enter to check the dressing room and wait for a reply. If there is no reply, the teacher will enter to check all pupils are out of the dressing room.

Pupils may be asked by a teacher to tog out/get dressed in a cubicle dressing locker if their behaviour has been problematic on a previous occasions.

Health and Safety

Pupils are required to behave at all times in a manner that ensures the safety of all involved in school swimming.

Parents/Guardians sign consent on enrolment for children to participate in out of school activities.

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. In the case of a child with Special Educational Needs, arrangements will be put in place as far as is possible to ensure the inclusion of all children.

Spray deodorants, talc etc. must not be brought to the pool as the dressing rooms are confined spaces. The Health and Safety Guidelines outlined by the pool authorities will be strictly adhered to.

Ratification and Review

This Policy was ratified by the Board of Management on February 8th 2022. This policy will be reviewed in 2025 or earlier should the need arise.

Signed: _____

Date: _____

Chairperson, Board of Management