



Swimming Policy

Aims/Purposes

- To enable pupils to acquire basic swimming skills while they are at Ard Rí Community NS
- 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 for a six week course of swimming instruction in the Aura Leisure Centre for each of its students from Senior Infants upwards each school year.

Procedures Guidelines

- Each pupil will attend a 6-week session in the Aura swimming pool from Senior Infants upwards.
- Lessons at the Aura Leisure Centre have been reserved for six weeks. Attendance at this course fulfils the Aquatics Strand of the PE Curriculum as laid down by the Department of Education and parents are required to cover the cost of the course and the transport to and from the pool.
- All children are encouraged to participate in aquatics lessons as part of the National Primary Curriculum. Should a child be unable to attend aquatics, due to a medical condition or other reasons, a letter must be written to the school requesting exemption. Arrangements for supervision in this instance will be made on a case by case basis. Should a child be unable to attend one lesson due to ill health or any other reason, a letter must be given to the Principal and he/she will remain in the school under the supervision of another class teacher, with work assigned to them for the duration of the swimming lesson.
- Pupils will be accompanied by and supervised by their class teachers and SNA (where applicable) on the way to and from the pool. In the event that parents are required to assist the class teachers, they will help in the overall management of pupils and not individual pupils. All children will travel by bus to the pool and their class teachers will provide supervision before and after the swimming lesson.

Ard Rí Community National School

Balreask Old,
Navan,
Co. Meath

Roll No. 20352T

Swimming Policy

March 2016



- In the event that a child is to be collected from the pool by a parent/guardian for an appointment or family emergency, a letter/note must be sent to inform the class teacher and the class teacher must be informed at the time of departure from the pool.
- Pupils attending the swimming lessons will be from a combination of class levels throughout the school.
- Children will not be permitted to help dress each other.
- All children attending the swimming lessons must wear their tracksuit. Swimming togs must be worn under tracksuits coming to school that day. Each child must have a suitable bag to carry his/her swimming gear - sports bag or similar with secure zip or fastening. The bag must be big enough to fit all of your child's clothes and footwear as all items will be stored away during lessons.
- All items brought to the pool must be **clearly labelled** with the child's name. This includes their bag, arm bands, tracksuit, socks, underwear and shoes - Loss of items is the child's responsibility.
- Each child must have their own togs, towel and swimming cap, all of which must also be marked. (Children will not be admitted to the water without a swimming cap)
- No valuables, money or jewelry are to be brought to the pool or on the coach. Glasses are the only exception to this rule - loss of any items is the child's responsibility.
- Deodorants or sprays will not be permitted in the changing rooms as they are confined spaces. Such items will be confiscated if found.

Health and Safety

- 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 school swimming lessons. Pupils must obey the instructor's orders at all times and comply with the School Code of Behaviour. Children who do not follow the school's code of behaviour will not be permitted to attend further swimming lessons. There will be no refund should this situation arise.
- Parents/guardians will receive a standard letter providing information on school swimming before their child starts their swimming term.
- An Information Meeting will be given to parents of all children commencing swimming lessons for the first time, in any school year.
- Teachers of all classes will remain on the pool deck during the lesson in order to supervise the overall group and pupils who may need to use the toilets during the lesson.



- Children must be able to dry and dress themselves independently if they wish to attend swimming lessons.
- If a parent is concerned that their child is unable to dress independently, a parent can seek permission from the school principal to assist **their own child** before and after the swimming lesson. **Parents will not be permitted under any circumstances to assist another child.**
- A **consent form** from parents to the school will be required before any children attend swimming lessons.
- Parents wishing to assist their own child must fill in a **'Request for Attendance at Swimming Lessons'** Form and submit it to the principal prior to the commencement of Swimming Lessons for the academic year in question.
- If there is an incident of wetting, soiling or vomiting on clothes, the school's Intimate Care Policy will be followed. See 'Intimate Care Policy' for more information.

Monitoring / Evaluation / Review:

This policy was devised in consultation with the Principal, School Manager, Class Teachers and SNA(s) where applicable.

The policy will be revised annually or at other times if deemed necessary.

Signed: Doris O'Keefe Date: 11 03 116
Principal

Signed: [Signature] Date: 3 1 03 116
School Manager