



Southfields Primary School

Swimming Pool Policy

Date agreed: January 2023

Review Date: January 2025

This policy, having been presented to, and agreed upon by the whole staff and Governors, will be distributed to:

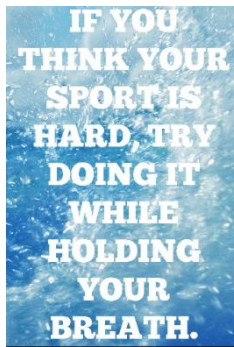
- All teaching staff
- School governors

A copy of the policy will also be available in:

- The Staffroom
- The Head's office
- School web site

This will ensure that the policy is readily available to visiting teachers, support staff and parents.

Southfields Primary is totally committed to social justice and improving life chances for potentially vulnerable children. It is dedicated to sharing its work and findings beyond the school to improve outcomes for as many children as it can reach and has a particular specialism in Speech and Language development.



1. Vision

All children should have the opportunity to have swimming instruction in either KS1 or KS2, at Southfields children from EYFS through to Year 6 have lessons throughout the Summer term in the school pool. Children from Year 4-Year 6 have access to deep water swimming sessions at the local Secondary School.

The main aims of swimming sessions are:

- To develop children's confidence in water activities.
- To develop stroke competence and proficiency working towards a distance of 25metres.
- To teach children how to perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations.
- Teach children to use a range of strokes effectively (i.e. front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke).

2. Normal Operation Plan

- Access to the pool area is through a padlocked gate – the key is kept in the office and all staff are aware of the lock combination. The gate must always be locked when the pool is not in use.
- The pool is raised above the ground and the entry to and from the pool is by steps only. The running and operation of the pool is overseen by a trained staff member who checks the temperature and chemical levels daily before use.
- The children must walk within the pool area.
- When not swimming children should either be changing or sitting down on seating provided around the pool area, not against the actual pool. The children should never gather around the edge of the pool.



- The maximum number in the pool is 15 pupils only. Pupils are counted into the pool and then out again, this is recorded inside the pool storage room for each session.
- The ideal number for teaching is 10 -15 pupils.
- Two members of staff must always be at the poolside.
- A First Aid Box is located in the swimming store room/ toilet area.
- Staff must always have a mobile phone or walkie-talkie with them at the pool side (this can be their own or the school phone).
- The nearest mains phone is located in the Kitchen Manager's office.
- Where emergency phone calls need to be made, the person who saw the incident must make the call.
- In an emergency situation send a child with 'Perspex Help Square' to call for help (see Emergency Action Plan).

3. Expectation check list

Prior to session:

- Staff involved with the session should have appropriate clothing and footwear on to allow them to help children in and out of the pool and move safely around the poolside.
- There must be two adults at the poolside who are trained in resuscitation procedures. Orderly behaviour is essential at all times. No child should be at the poolside area without an adult present.
- Children who are not changing will be seated around the edge of the pool on benches with parasols (Staff will determine if parasols are required and if so, only staff members will put them up, no children are to use the parasols).
- Children are to use designated changing rooms (boys and girls separately), a member of staff will check changing rooms before children enter. Shoes and socks are to be removed before entering the changing rooms and placed neatly to the side of the changing room entrance.
- Prior to children entering the pool a member of trained staff will risk assess the area checking the pool and poolside for any unwanted or dangerous objects.

- Nobody enters the water until instructions are given. Once instructions are given, an adult on poolside supervises the steps to ensure children are using the correct technique for entering the pool. One children to be on the steps at once.
- Make children aware of whistle signals before entering the pool.

During the session:

- Whistle signal for the children to stop, look and listen for instructions. Teachers must be in a good position to see the swimming group.
- Equipment to be used during the session must be stored safely around poolside to avoid any trips/falls.

After the session:

- There is a daily chart to be completed by teachers regarding the number of children swimming (inside first door on notice board).
- Staff are expected to mop floors and check changing rooms are left in good condition after their session.

4. Hygiene

Before swimming the children need to:

- Use the toilet in the main school.
- Blow their noses.
- Children with open cuts or infections should not swim.
- Verruca's do not prevent the child from swimming but must be covered up at all times.
- All jewellery must removed
- Children must have the correct swimming attire (swimming costume/trunks and swimming hat)

5. Emergency Action plan (E.A.P)

- **Blow whistle, children must stop, stand, look and listen for instructions.**
- **Make pupils aware of the actions when the whistle is blown, prior to the first lesson.**
- Attend to the injured /distressed child first and then as soon as possible give instructions to the rest of the class to come out of the water and sit or go to a safe area.

- As soon as more adults arrive move all children safely away from the pool.
- Evacuation for fire alarm – same procedure as when in class – leave pool directly and go to assembly point (blankets are available at bottom playground disabled toilet room).

Set accident procedure in place:

- Send Perspex **Help Square** to kitchen window or to first classroom/adult in school. First Aid Kit and resuscitation aid at poolside.
- All staff attending poolside are trained annually in the procedures for '**Recovery and Resuscitation**'.
- See Health and Safety Policy and pupil's individual risk assessments for further information.

PLEASE REMEMBER:

Care and Safety

'In our school we respect our children' and 'they all have a right to feel safe', both of these quotes are from our Safeguarding Policy.

We believe staff have a right to enter the swimming pool changing rooms in order to deal with concerns or issues such as:

- Health and wellbeing – in the case of accidents, illness or medical conditions.
- Behaviour issues – either noise related, immature or threatening behaviour particularly towards others or acting in such a way that there is a likelihood of a risk of injury being sustained.

Unless in cases of dire emergency, prior to staff entering the changing rooms, pupils in these areas will always be advised, both by the staff member knocking and shouting a warning giving pupils time to 'cover up' and not feel embarrassed or uncomfortable in any way.

	Healthy and Safety Ratio	Quality Teaching Ratio
Non-swimmers and beginners – Young children, normally primary school age, being introduced to swimming who are unable to swim 10metres unaided on back or front.	12:1	8:1
Children under the age of seven – Irrespective of their swimming ability group size should be restricted.	12:1	8:1
Improving swimmers – Swimmers of a similar ability to each other who can swim at least 10 metres competently and unaided on their back and on their front.	20:1	12:1
Mixed ability groups – Pupils with a range of abilities (from improving to competent) where the least able and least confident are working well within their depth. Swimmers techniques, stamina and deep water experience should be considered.	20:1	12:1
Competent swimmers – Those swimmers who can swim at least 25 metres competently and unaided on front and back, and can tread water for two minutes.	20:1	15:1
Swimmers with disabilities – Each situation must be considered individually, as people with disabilities are not a homogeneous group.	8:1with 1:1 support in the water where required	