



Esker ETNS Swimming Policy

Aims/Purposes

- To enable pupils to acquire basic swimming skills while they are at Esker ETNS.
- To comply with the requirements of the Revised Curriculum in aquatics.

Procedures Guidelines

- Lessons will be offered to as many class levels as possible from 2nd to 5th class. The number of class levels who will be offered lessons will be determined by the availability of funding. Lessons will be offered in the following order: 5th, 4th, 3rd, 2nd.
- Each participating pupil will attend a 7-week session annually at Clondalkin Leisure Centre.
- All children at each class level will be encouraged to participate. Children who are not attending lessons will be assigned work by their class teacher and supervised by another teacher while the class is attending swimming lessons.
- Costs incurred by hiring of pool, and payment of instructors necessitate a charge being imposed on each pupil. Inability to pay will not preclude a pupil from participating fully in swimming classes. This will be communicated to parents.
- It has been agreed that the cost of the bus to and from the Leisure Centre will be covered by the school, until the local leisure centre is ready for use.

Instructional Arrangements

- Catherine Hare, a member of staff, will organize the swimming programme for all participating classes.
- Instruction in the pool will be provided by swimming instructors, employed by the Leisure Centre.
- Class teachers will inform swimming instructors of any child for whom additional needs may present difficulties when swimming.

Travel and Supervision Arrangements

- At least two members of teaching staff will accompany the children on the bus to and from the pool, and will remain at the pool during these lessons. Any child who has an S.N.A. will be accompanied by the S.N.A to the pool. The SNA will remain at the poolside during the lesson.

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.

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 an email providing information on school swimming before their child starts their swimming lessons. Permission for the child to attend will be sought and granted through Aladdin. Permission may also be granted in writing if parents prefer.

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.

Aerosol sprays such as deodorants 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.

Monitoring / Evaluation / Review:

This policy was ratified by the BOM on 16th January 2023.

It will be reviewed on the basis of changes to legislation, circular letters and/ or other requirements.

Signed: 

Chairperson of the BOM of Esker ETNS