



Redesdale Primary School

Swimming Policy

Policy reviewed:	January 2025
Policy review date:	January 2028



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SWIMMING POLICY

Swimming is an important life skill. In addition it is a highly beneficial activity for acquiring an increased movement vocabulary and skills, for health, for enjoyment and as a threshold skill, giving access to many other water-based recreational activities. It is one of the few activities that people can enjoy all their life either on their own or with friends and family of the same or different ages, whether just for fun or competitively. We owe it to our children to give them the best chance to learn to swim, as well and as early as possible.

OVERALL LOCAL AUTHORITY RESPONSIBILITY

North Tyneside Council has responsibility for ensuring safety in swimming in schools where it is the employer. As part of this responsibility the Local Authority provides the safety policy, guidance and procedures for swimming, and ensures that its employees receive any necessary training to carry out their delegated tasks. As a school we follow this guidance to ensure our children receive high quality teaching and learning and are provided with a comprehensive programme of swimming tuition designed to allow them to become competent and confident swimmers who are knowledgeable about water safety.

SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITY

- Children are appropriately supervised when changing.
- Children are under control at all times.
- A headcount is taken before, during and after sessions
- Normal and emergency procedures are enforced
- Teachers have an overview of the teaching of their children and the conduct of the class.
- A risk assessment for travelling to the venue.

SUPERVISION OF CHANGING ROOMS

Children should be supervised whilst changing:

- if children are using a mixed sex changing area with cubicles then a member of staff of either gender may supervise.
- in single sex changing rooms, the school staff will supervise children of the same sex.

HADRIAN LEISURE CENTRE

The children are taught by instructors provided by Hadrian Leisure Centre and are their responsibility whilst the lesson is in progress, both in and out of the pool. The children follow all pool rules as instructed by their instructor.

The school staff are present at all times. School staff are poolside wearing footwear with covers provided by the pool or in bare feet.

Any accidents which happen at the poolside or in the pool are dealt with by the pool first aiders.

Any other incidents are dealt with by our school staff and are reported to the teacher and/or Headteacher on return to school.

Accident forms are completed as appropriate.

The children are given the opportunity to attain relevant ASA swim badges at the completion of the sessions. These are celebrated in whole school celebration assemblies.

In an emergency situation while at the Hadrian Leisure Centre, we follow the procedures as instructed by the pool staff, for evacuation etc.

All pool staff, school staff and parent helpers taken by the school are DBS checked.

TEACHING AIMS OF SWIMMING

Children will be taught to:

- swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres.
- use a range of strokes effectively (for example, front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke).
- perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations.

In partnership with parents and the swimming provided through school in Year 4, we aspire for all children to be able to swim 25 metres prior to leaving Redesdale Primary School.

Whilst there is extra funding provided for PE, an annual review will take place in Year 6 to see how many children have not achieved this aspiration. A proposal may be put together to offer further swimming lessons within school time for a block of two weeks.

OTHER DOCUMENTATION

Risk Assessments for travelling to and from the pool are completed each school year and copies are held by the School Business Manager and Headteacher.

MONITORING & REVIEW

This policy will be reviewed every three years by the PE Curriculum Leader and Headteacher in conjunction with the Governing Body. Any changes made to this policy will be communicated to all members of staff.