



Laura Pearce
Headteacher

Tuesday 2nd June 2026

Dear Parents/Carers,

RE: School Swimming Programme – Summer Half-Term

We are delighted to inform you that this half-term, your child will be taking part in school swimming lessons.

Our swimming programme teaches children how to be safe in and around water, as well as teaching them how to swim. The National Curriculum states:

“All schools must provide swimming instruction either in Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2. Pupils should be taught to swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres, using a range of strokes effectively such as front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke and perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations.”

We believe that swimming lessons should not only teach children the key skills they need to stay safe in the water but should also inspire them to swim more often to help them stay fit and healthy. Because this is a National Curriculum expectation, **all pupils are expected to participate.**

Exciting News: Our On-Site Mobile Pool

Due to the ongoing inconsistency of available external facilities and pool closures, we have invested heavily this year to secure a heated, undercover mobile swimming pool right here on our school site for this half-term!

There are several fantastic advantages to having our own pool on-site. It is much more convenient for the children and guarantees consistent, uninterrupted swimming lessons—something we have unfortunately struggled with in the past due to transport issues when travelling to Arnos Pool, as well as last-minute facility cancellations.

By having the pool on-site, we are also able to offer significantly better support for our pupils. Children will swim in small **groups of just 10**, tailored closely to their specific swimming ability. Furthermore, because we no longer lose valuable time travelling to an external venue, the children will be in the pool for longer during each session. This maximized time in the water will provide high-quality practice and, hopefully, excellent progress for every child.

Because the pool is fully undercover and heated, lessons will take place regardless of weather conditions. To ensure privacy and comfort, children will change in **individual changing pods** located in a classroom directly opposite the swimming pool.

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Below, you'll find images of an example of a pop-up swimming pool and pop-up individual changing pods tents the children will use.



What to Pack in Your Child's Swimming Bag

To enable your child to gain the most from their lessons, we require your support in ensuring they have the correct kit.

1. Approved Swimwear Options

Your child should wear one of the following options in the water:

- **Option 1:** One-piece swimming costume with a racerback.



- **Option 2:** One-piece swim outfit with long sleeves and legs.



- **Option 3:** Swimming trunks or short-fitted shorts (above the knee).



2. Essential Swimming Items

Please ensure the following items are packed for every lesson:

- **Swimming hat** (essential for all swimmers)
- **Goggles**
- **Flip-flops** (to wear when walking to and from the changing pods)
- **Verruca socks** (if required)
- A towel

3. Important Kit Rules

- **Name Labels:** With groups changing together, items can easily be misplaced. Please ensure **both your child's school uniform and swimming costume are clearly labelled with their full name.**
- **No underwear** is to be worn under swimming costumes or shorts.
- **No jewellery** of any kind is permitted in the pool for safety reasons.
- **Medical Note (Asthma):** If your child uses an asthma inhaler, they **must** have their pump in school. It will be taken to the poolside with them for every session.

Swimming Schedule & Assessment Information

Lessons will begin this **Thursday 4th June.**

Please note that your child's very first session will be an **assessment lesson.** This initial session allows our instructors to gauge each child's current confidence and water skills so we can place them into the most effective ability group.

Because final groups will be decided after this assessment, **your child's designated swimming day may change** for the remainder of the half-term. This is why each year group has multiple potential swimming days listed below. Once the assessments are complete, we will confirm your child's permanent slot.

⚠ **Please Note:** It is imperative that their swimming kit is on-site with them on *all* potential days for their year group. Please bring in your kit on the first day indicated for your year group in bold. Due to tight scheduling and instructor availability, if a child misses their session, **we are unable to reschedule it.**

Please see the provisional timetable below for this week and next:

| Year Group | Swimming Day |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Year 5 | Thursday 4th June and Friday 5 th June |
| Year 4 | Friday 5th June, Monday 8 th June and Tuesday 9 th June |
| Year 6 | Tuesday 9th June and Wednesday 10 th June |

Please can we ask you to clearly label your child's school uniform and swimming costume with their full name.

Thank you for your continued support in helping us deliver this vital life skill to our pupils. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the school office.

Warm regards,

Kathleen Cushnie

Deputy Headteacher