

SCOIL SAN EOIN SWIMMING POLICY



AIMS/PURPOSES

- Scoil San Eoin has regard to both the physical and mental development of each of its pupils, believing that a healthy body promotes a healthy mind.
- To enable pupils to acquire basic swimming skills while they are at Scoil San Eoin.
- To comply with the requirements of the Revised Curriculum in aquatics.

PROCEDURES GUIDELINES

- Each pupil will attend a 6 week session in Coral Leisure Centre (Arklow) swimming pool every second year.
- Attendance at this course fulfils the Aquatics Module of the PE Curriculum as laid down by the Department of Education. Parents defray the cost of the course and also that of the transport to and from the pool. If a parent is unable to do this, the Board will offer to defray the cost for them. The Board of Management contribute money from the Fundraising account towards the cost of the bus.

TRAVEL AND SUPERVISION ARRANGEMENTS

- Pupils will be accompanied by and supervised by class teachers on the bus journey to/from the swimming pool. Parents will be requested to help with supervision and with dressing and undressing smaller children at the Coral Leisure Centre.
- Parents/Guardians are not permitted to enter the communal dressing rooms. Also they are not permitted to enter the swimming pool area while swimming lessons are taking place.
- Parents who give permission for other persons to dress their child/ren must submit a consent form in writing before swimming commences

SWIMMING BAG AND CLOTHING

- All children attending the course should wear their tracksuit bottoms, polo shirt and school uniform jumpers. (Swimming togs may be worn under tracksuits coming to school). Each child must have a suitable bag to carry his/her swimming gear (sports bag or similar with secure zip or other fastening).
- All items brought to the pool must be clearly labelled with the child's name. This includes the bag, tracksuit, socks, underwear and shoes.
- Each child must have their own togs (without pockets), towel, wet bag, hair brush and swim cap, all of which must also be marked.
- Pupils are not permitted to bring aerosols in their swimming bag for health and safety reasons
- Parents are asked, in relation to the Infant classes, to ensure that their child is as proficient as possible in dressing and undressing themselves, before swim classes begin, so as to cut down on time spent in the dressing rooms, and to alleviate the need for parents to accompany their child to each 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. While in the pool, pupils must endeavour to obey the instructor's orders at all times and comply with the School Behaviour Policy and the Traffic Lights system will apply.
- Parents/guardians will receive a standard letter providing information on school swimming before their child starts their swimming term.
- The permission from parents to the school to let children go swimming is covered in the Annual Consent Form/Enrolment Form
- 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.

- Should a child be unable to attend the course, due to ill health or any other reason, he/she will travel with the class to the pool and remain under the supervision of the class teacher. Pupils must have a doctor's note to confirm that the pupil is unable to take part in swimming lessons, unless otherwise stated by Principal.
- Deodorants etc. 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.
- For safety reasons, a toilet record will be monitored by the teacher – Refer to Appendix A
- To ensure the public are aware of the communal dressing rooms being occupied by Scoil San Eoin pupils during lessons, a female and male sign will be placed on the door. Refer to Appendix B
- **The school will liaise with Coral Leisure Arklow in the run up to swimming lesson with regard to any changes they may have made to their policies etc since the last module of lessons.**

RATIFICATION & COMMUNICATION

- This policy was ratified by the Board of Management of Scoil San Eoin on _____. It will then be circulated to each teacher. It will then also be made available on the school website.

• Signed: _____ Date: _____
Chairperson for the Board of Management

Signed: _____ Date: _____
Principal

