



## SWIMMING POLICY

Swimming is an essential life skill and Parkside Community Foundation Primary School is committed to fulfilling the National Curriculum expectation that all pupils will leave the school being able to swim 25m. In addition, it is a highly beneficial activity for developing an increased movement vocabulary and skills. Furthermore, swimming is a threshold skill that will provide access to many other water-based recreational activities, leading to opportunities to pursue a healthy, active lifestyle.

### OVERALL COUNTY COUNCIL RESPONSIBILITY

Kent County Council (KCC) has responsibility for ensuring safety in swimming in schools as our employer. As part of this responsibility, the KCC provides the safety policy, guidance and procedures for swimming, and ensures that its employees receive any necessary training to carry out their delegated tasks.

### SCHOOL RESPONSIBILITY

- Children are appropriately supervised when changing
- Pupils are under control at all times
- A headcount is taken before, during and after sessions
- Normal and emergency procedures are enforced
- Teachers (and adults other than teachers) have an overview of the teaching of their children and the conduct of the class.
- Will complete a risk assessment for travelling

### AIMS OF TEACHING SWIMMING

- To teach the pupils an important life-long skill
- To provide a meaningful and safe swimming experience for pupils.
- To reinforce the stated aims of the school in relation to physical education; the personal and social development of pupils and their health and wellbeing.
- To meet the requirements of the National Curriculum.

### SWIMMING POOL ORGANISATION

Swimming at Parkside Community Foundation Primary School is timetabled from September to July for pupils in Key Stage 2- Years 3-6. Swimming lessons take place at Kingsmead Leisure Centre. Pupils will travel via the school minibus both to and from the school premises to the leisure centre. Pupils are taught by instructors provided by Active Life 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. All instructors are DBS checked.

School staff are present at all times with a member at the poolside wearing footwear 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 and accident procedures will be adhered to. Any other incidents are dealt with by our school staff and are reported to the teacher and/or Headteacher as appropriate.

Upper Key Stage 2 are given the opportunity to go swimming in Terms 1 and 2.

In an emergency whilst at the swimming pool, the school follows evacuation procedures as instructed by swimming pool staff.

## **SUPERVISION OF CHANGING ROOMS**

Children will be supervised whilst changing:

- If children are using a mixed sex changing area with cubicles then a member of staff from the school of either gender may supervise.
- In single sex changing rooms, the staff from school or the swimming pool will supervise children of same sex.

## **THE ROLE OF THE LEADING ADULT**

- The welfare and safety of pupils at all times
- Counting pupils into and out of the building
- Confirm attendance and any relevant medical information
- Adhere to health and safety requirements
- Adhere to SEND health and safety requirements

## **THE ROLE OF SUPPORT STAFF**

- The welfare of specific pupils in the changing rooms and shower area
- Supervision and oversight of any designated child, ensuring the child understands and follows instructions
- Consult with the leading adult and agree arrangements to be made about the provision for the children that require further support.
- Adhere to SEND health and safety requirements

## **THE ROLE OF SWIMMING TEACHERS**

- Have the appropriate training and skill to enable them to teach effectively
- Possess DBS clearance
- Organise classes according to: class numbers and pupil ability. Number of teachers/adult helpers.

- Ensure all equipment is ready and in the correct place in the teaching area.
- Make best use of available pool space using lane lines where appropriate

### **EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES**

All pupils have equal access to the swimming curriculum regardless of race, gender, creed or ability, in line with the school's policies on Special Education Needs and Disabilities. Any child with SEND will participate in all activities as far as possible according to their abilities, in accordance to the ECHP and consultation with the parents and any special needs personnel. If for any reason it is not possible to provide swimming for a child then alternative, appropriate activities will be provided.

### **PUPILS SWIMMING ATTIRE**

- Pupils should wear appropriate costumes for swimming that conform to safety, cultural and teaching requirements. Swimming goggles are optional, however, hair must be tied back and all jewellery should be removed. Where pupils may not be able to remove earrings, these must be taped.
- It is important that swimming clothing is relatively tight fitting so as to minimize the effect of drag that waterlogged clothing can create (as this is dangerous for weak swimmers).

### **ASSESSMENT AND RECORDING**

The swimming ability of the pupils will be assessed at the beginning of a unit of work by the swimming instructor and recorded. Records will be kept of the progress of individual pupils throughout the unit of work.

### **OTHER DOCUMENTATION**

Risk Assessment for travelling to and from the swimming pool is completed each school year and copies are held by the in the school office.

An up to date copy of the pool risk assessment is available to staff

Policy adopted by Governing Body on 18/03/2025

To be reviewed on March 2028

Signed by Headteacher J. Williams

Signed by Chair of Governors M. Graham