



Scoil Barra Naofa, Monkstown Swimming Policy

Aims/Purposes

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

Rationale

- The school has regard to both the physical and mental development of each of its pupils. Believing that a healthy body promotes a healthy mind, the school arranges for a five-week course of swimming instruction in Leisureworld Swimming Pool for its students during the school year.

Procedures Guidelines

- Each pupil will attend a 5 week session in a swimming pool annually from 1st Class – 4th Class
- The swimming pool at Leisureworld, Bishopstown has been reserved from 10:40 a.m. – 11:25 a.m.
- Attendance at this course fulfils the Aquatics Module of the PE Curriculum as laid down by the Department of Education and parents defray the cost of the course and also that of the transport to and from the pool.
- All children are encouraged to participate in aquatics lessons as part of the National Curriculum. Should a child be unable to attend aquatics, due to a medical condition, a letter must be written to the Board of Management requesting exemption. Arrangements for supervision in this instance will be made on a case-by-case basis.
- Should a child be unable to attend one lesson due to ill health or any other reason, a letter must be given to the principal and he/she will remain in school and will be supervised in another class teacher's room. Which class they are sent to is at the discretion of their own class teacher.
- Pupils will be accompanied by and supervised by a class teacher on the way to the pool from the school. Pupils will travel by coach to and from the pool.
- Pupils will have access to a male and female dressing room. Each dressing room will be supervised by a teacher and one SNA/ one parent. The parent will have been contacted by the school in advance. (*See below*). Both the parent and teacher will be present in an

appropriate supervisory, supportive capacity for the entire group. They will not be responsible for assisting any particular child.

- The school will make every effort to set up a supervision roster of parents for the dressing room, to support the supervision already in place by the teacher. The parents on the roster will be contacted well in advance in order to ensure their availability. Parents wishing to join the roster will need to ensure that they are fully Garda Vetted before contacting the school. They will then be added to the roster for the following school year.
- No other parents, other than those on the roster for that week, will be allowed access to the dressing rooms.
- All pupils must remain in the two allocated dressing rooms, as part of the group and under the supervision of a teacher at all times. Therefore parents cannot take their own child to a separate cubicle.
- If there is an exceptional medical reason that an individual changing facility is required, parents should contact the school in advance in order to discuss this with the school principal.
- The swimming instructors will be informed of any medical issues (E.g. Hearing difficulties, epilepsy etc.) by the class teacher.
- All children attending the course should wear their tracksuit. (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, hair brush and swim cap, all of which should be marked.
- No valuables, money or jewellery are to be brought to the pool or on the coach. Spectacles are the only exception to this rule.
- All pupils must bring a warm jacket, with a hood with them, no matter the weather, as they will be walking from the bus to the school up the hill, with damp hair.

Health and Safety

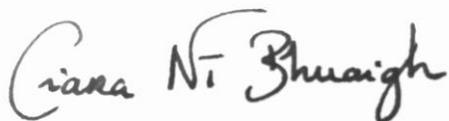
- Best practice in relation to the supervision, instruction and child protection procedures as outlined by the Irish Sports Council, Swim Ireland and the National Safety Council will be adhered to at all times. Staff will follow the guidelines of our own Health & Safety and Child Protection policies at all times.

- Pupils are required to behave at all times in a manner that ensures the safety of all involved in school swimming. Pupils must endeavour to obey the instructor's orders at all times and comply with the School Code of Behaviour.
- Parents/guardians will receive a standard letter providing information on school swimming before their child starts their swimming term.
- Teachers of all classes should remain on the viewing deck during the lesson in order to supervise the overall group and accompany pupils who may need to use the toilets during the lesson.
- The permission from parents to the school to allow children go swimming is covered in a consent form, before the end of the previous school year.

Monitoring / Evaluation / Review

This policy is revised annually, or at other times if deemed necessary.

This policy was adopted by the Board of Management on 21/09/2015.



Signed:

(Principal)

Date: 21/09/2015



Signed:

(Chairperson B.o.M.)

Date: 21/09/2015