



SWIMMING

Policy

Purpose:

To provide all students with the opportunity to participate in a Prep-Year Six swimming and water safety program aimed at developing confident and competent swimmers who display the skills, knowledge and confidence required to enjoy swimming and other aquatic activities in safety.

Guidelines:

Teacher:

- The school's annual swimming program will be organised and coordinated by the Physical Education teacher, or an appointed coordinator, and will involve the use of a near by aquatic centre, and will comply with DEECD requirements at all times.
- A staff member will be in attendance at all times, being a qualified teacher employed by either the school council or DEECD who has overall responsibility for the program.
- Extra school staff will be made available to assist with transporting groups to and from the venue, and changing in the change rooms if required.
- All permission notes must be carefully checked to ensure they contain a valid signature and are fully completed. Permission notes must be taken to the pool.
- The teacher in charge must keep a clear and accurate roll of the group before travelling to and leaving the centre.
- If attending staff don't have a mobile phone, they must be aware of where telephones are in the facility. If a problem or emergency arises, pool staff will be asked to call the school to allow the teacher in charge to assist with supervision or an evacuation. The school mobile phone may be taken from the office.
- Coordinators will run through swimming rules and procedures at area meetings prior to the swimming program.

Safety:

- Students must be accompanied by the appropriate teacher in the change rooms. Where an adult of a suitable gender is not present, alternative change-room arrangements will be made. This may involve a storeroom or family change room. Students should be encouraged to use the toilet before the lesson.
- If a student needs to leave the pool for any reason, they must inform their instructor and then the teacher in charge. All students must travel in pairs to the toilet. They must then report back to the teacher in charge who will inform the instructor that the students have returned.

- At the end of each lesson, students are to be made aware of a common assembly point after changing. Students should not leave the change rooms unless instructed by the teacher on duty. Students are not permitted back onto the pool concourse after changing. All changing areas will be checked for misplaced clothing.

Administration:

- Minimum overall DEECD staff-student ratios will be followed at all times. That is:
 - **Beginners:** (shallow water – little or no experience) 1 staff to maximum 10 students.
 - **Intermediate:**(basic skills and able to swim 25 metres with a recognisable stroke) 1 staff to maximum 12 students
 - **Advanced**(able to swim 50 metres using 2 recognisable strokes and demonstrate 1 survival stroke in deep water) 1 staff to maximum 15 students.
- The swimming program will follow Levels 1-7 of the RLSSA AusSwim program, with student progress, achievement levels, reports and certificates being coordinated by the Physical Education teacher. The program will consist of minimum 45 minute lessons each day for 8 to 10 sessions, or an intensive program over two weeks.
- All swimming instructors should have at least an AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety certificate and current CPR qualifications.
- The program will cater for individual needs of the students.
- A venue emergency drill will be explained and practiced at the start of the program, and throughout the program. This procedure will be made available to staff in writing prior to lessons.

Parents/Carers:

- Parents must provide a completed and signed swimming permission form for their child to participate in the program, and staff associated with the swimming program are to be made familiar with medical histories of students in respect to epilepsy, diabetes, asthma and heart conditions, and appropriate measures taken. (See SOTF Reference Guide 4.4.4.7 – Swimming: medical warnings).
- Where possible costs associated with swimming programs should be paid by parents prior to the commencement of the program. Parents experiencing financial difficulty should contact the Principal.
- All parents must abide by the Centre’s ‘photographic privacy requirements’.
- Parents assisting with the program will require a current ‘Working with Children Check’.

Evaluation:

- Evaluation to be ongoing at sessions and at the completion of the program.
- Swimming program to be reviewed annually as part of the program budget evaluation.