



Policy on Swimming

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 course of swimming instruction in Kells Swimming Pool for children in 1st – 6th classes.

Attendance at this course fulfils the Aquatics Module of the PE Curriculum as laid down by the Dept. of Education.

- The pool is booked each year for a suitable time, bearing in mind the school calendar of events.
- The school books the bus. All seatbelts must work and all children and adults must wear seatbelts.
- All children attending the course should wear their tracksuit. (Swim 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 must also be marked. Deodorants or perfumes are not permitted in the changing rooms.
- While in the pool, pupils must endeavour to obey the instructor's orders at all times and comply with the School Code of Behaviour.

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.
- Parents/guardians will receive a standard letter providing information on school swimming before their child starts their swimming term. A consent note, granting permission for a child to participate in swimming must be returned to the class teacher prior to the start of the swimming term.
- 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

- Use of confectionery and drinks dispensers are forbidden at all times. Parents are requested not to bring food/drink for their children or others to the pool
- 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.
- In line with our Child Protection policy parents are not permitted to enter the changing rooms. Therefore parents must ensure that prior to the commencement of swimming their child is capable of drying and dressing themselves. Parents are welcome to the spectator gallery to see their child participating in the swimming lessons.

If a parent/parents have concerns with the cost of this activity they can contact the principal to discuss options.

Signed on behalf of the Board of Management:

Signed: _____

Date: _____