



Scoil Sinead - Pelletstown Swimming Policy

Aims / Purposes

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

Rationale

- The school has regard to both physical and mental development of each of its pupils. Believing that a healthy body promotes a healthy mind, the school arranges for a period course of swimming instruction in a local swimming pool for each of its students.

Procedures / Guidelines

- Each pupil will attend at least 5/6 week session in a local swimming pool annually from junior classes to senior classes e.g. (Senior Infants to 6th Class).
- Before attending these lessons a programme to build awareness will run in each class.
- The swimming pool at the National Aquatic Centre is been reserved for a rolling period over the 2017/2018 Academic Year to facilitate all groups.
- Attendance at this course fulfils the Aquatics Module of the PE Curriculum as laid down by the Department of Education and Scoil Sinead - Pelletstown Physical Education Policy. The parents of Scoil Sinéad - Pelletstown meet the cost of the course and also that of the transport to and from the swimming pool. If a parent is unable to do this, then Scoil Sinéad Ltd. will consider meeting the cost for them from the schools allocated resources and with the permission of the Single School Manager.
- All children are encouraged to participate in aquatic 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 Principal 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. He/she will travel with the class to the swimming pool and remain under the supervision of the class teachers / SNA's.
- Pupils will be accompanied by and supervised by class teachers and SNA's on the way to and from the swimming pool. Pupils will travel by coach to the swimming pool and school staff will provide supervision before and after the swimming lesson. While poolside, the children are the responsibility of the National Aquatic Centre.

- All children attending the course should wear their tracksuit. (Swimming togs should be worn under tracksuit 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).
- Each child must have their own togs (without pockets), towel, hair brush and swim cap, all of which must be clearly labelled. Should any child wish to wear a Burkini or Wrist to Ankle swimsuit for reasons of health, modesty or belief, they may do so.

Health & 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 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 / SNA's of all classes should remain on the viewing deck during the lesson in order to supervise the overall group and pupils who may need to use the toilets during the lesson.

Monitoring / Evaluation / Review

- Policy is revised annually or at other times if deemed necessary.