



Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> July 2021

Dear parents and carers,

**Re: Swimming Programme 2021/22 Year 4**

As you may be aware, it is a legal requirement that pupils in year 4 attend swimming sessions. This is a key part of the Year 4 Physical Education curriculum and we are very lucky that we are able to utilise the excellent services of Hough End Leisure Centre, close by to school. As it currently stands, with guidance recently published, swimming will take place next year and we will follow the expectations sent to us by the school swimming team.

We have worked closely with the swimming instruction team for a number of years, and are confident that they will put the necessary measures in place to ensure children are safe. We are pleased that our children will get the same opportunity as previous year groups as it is so rewarding to see just how much progress children make with their swimming over the course of the school year.

We are writing to you to give you as much information as we can prior to the start of Year 4 about swimming.

**Swimming lessons take place on Wednesday afternoons. Your child must remember to bring their swimming kits to school on Wednesdays for their swimming lesson.**

The following is information sent through to us by the Sports and Leisure team regarding the Primary Swimming Programme:

All Manchester Swimming Teachers are professionally qualified and are trained National Pool lifeguards. Standards are high due to continued professional development in all aspects of aquatic disciplines. The safety of your child is of paramount importance to us.

Clothing requirements for school swimming are as follows:

Girls	Boys
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• One-piece swimming costume*</li> <li>• A swimming hat to be worn if the hair covers the eyes or airways</li> <li>• A towel</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• A pair of traditional lycra swimming trunks or shorts.</li> <li>• <b>No Bermuda or long shorts are allowed</b> – for reasons of safety, the swimwear should be sufficiently tight fitting to allow the freedom of the body and limb movement without causing unsafe water resistance. In terms of the legislation that covers this we are guided by AfPE (Association for Physical Education), Safe Practice in Physical Education and Sport 2012 and the ASA (Amateur Swimming Association)</li> <li>• A swimming hat is required to be worn if the hair covers the eyes or airways</li> <li>• A towel</li> </ul>



\*Please note that in order for your child to benefit from swimming lessons, appropriate aquatic clothing must be worn. Should your child wish to wear items of clothing that cover up parts of the body, there is specific aquatic clothing designed for this purpose. Cotton leggings are detrimental to teaching and are a risk to health and safety. If you need any more information, please contact Sports and Leisure, The Neighbourhood Service, Growth and Neighbourhoods, Manchester City Council, National Squash Centre and Regional Arena, Gate 13, Rowsley Street, Manchester, M11 3FF.

### Examples of appropriate tight fitting swim wear:



It remains the policy of the School Swimming Programme that jewellery of any description should not be worn in the swimming lesson. It is important that earrings in particular are removed. If you wish for your child to have pierced ears, please ensure that the earrings can either be removed by your child or that they are not worn to school on swimming and PE days. **Please do not take your child to have their ears pierced in the 6 week holiday prior to Y4 as they will be unable to attend swimming if they cannot remove their earrings.**

Goggles are only permitted for medical reasons. Parents must produce a letter from either a doctor or optician stating that your child has a medical condition and is required to wear goggles in the school swimming lesson. Once again, this policy is in place for safety reasons and AfPE safe Practice is the legislation that governs this (See 2.11.34 and 2.11.5 for specific legislation relating to this matter).

Showers are not permitted at the swimming baths unless your child has a medical condition that necessitates rinsing following a swimming lesson. For any shower requests, you must obtain a letter from the doctor stating that your child has a medical condition which means they require a shower after their lesson. We are unable to approve showers without this.

The school teacher and swimming teacher must be informed of any medical conditions that might affect your child during their swimming lesson. It is imperative that any medication required on poolside should be clearly labelled and brought to the lesson.

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Please also be aware that there is a legal requirement for swimming lessons to be attended. Ordinarily, if your child were ill or had forgotten their kit, we would place them in another class at school. However, due to current regulations, should your child be unable to attend swimming, they will need to be collected from school as we are unable to place children in other year groups due to bubble mixing.

We thank you for your support and hope your child finds this opportunity rewarding. It is a stand out feature of Year 4 memories for older pupils in school.

Best wishes

Senior Leadership Team

