

## **POLICY ON SWIMMING**

### **Aims/Purposes**

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

### **Procedures Guidelines**

- Each pupil has the option to attend swimming classes for the school year from senior infants to 6th class. Under 8's however must be accompanied by a parent or, in the case that a parent is unavailable, the school must be provided with a note stating who is responsible for supervising and changing the pupil.
- The swimming pool at Leisureland has been reserved for thirty six weeks on Mondays from 2.45 p.m. – 3.30 p.m
- Costs incurred by hiring of pool, and payment of instructors necessitate a charge of €7 per child per lesson being imposed on each pupil. Inability to pay will not preclude a pupil from participating fully in swimming classes.

### **Instructional Arrangements**

- Tullokyne Parents Association, will organize the swimming programme for all classes from infants to sixth.
- Instruction in the pool will be provided by Leisureland.

### **Travel and Supervision Arrangements**

Pupils will be accompanied by and supervised by two parents and one teacher on the way to the pool from the school. Pupils will travel to the pool by bus and one teacher and two parents will provide supervision before and after the swimming lesson. Pupils are available to be collected by parents from Leisureland at 3.30 p.m. or to return to school on the bus. There are no other stops on the way home other than at the school. If a parent is taking a pupil home that travelled to Leisureland on the bus then they must inform the parent with the rolla in advance. No pupil is allowed to leave Leisureland unsupervised.

Pupils may also travel to the pool with their parents. In this case, parents must collect their children from the school playground before the rest of the pupils enter the bus. No pupil is allowed to walk out the gate towards parked cars unless a parent has come in to collect them and has clearly informed the parent with the rolla that this child will not be on he bus.

Each teacher must provide the parents on duty each week with a list of pupils from their class who are travelling to swimming and a roll call will be taken on the bus before departing for Leisureland.

### **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.

Only pupils who intend to go swimming may travel to Leisureland on the bus.

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 principal 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.

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.

Whilst at the pool the pupils will not be allowed to visit the shops. It is recommended that each pupil brings a snack for after swimming as they can get quite hungry.

Deodorants etc. must not be brought to the pool as the dressing rooms are confined spaces. The Health and Safety Guidelines outlined by the pool authorities will be strictly adhered to.

It is the responsibility of the attending teacher to bring a first aid bag.

**Monitoring / Evaluation / Review:**

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

May 2010

Signed on behalf of the BOM - \_\_\_\_\_  
Brian Leonard (Chairperson)

Date - \_\_\_\_\_