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|  |  | **Policy on Swimming** |

**Aims/Purposes**

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

**Procedures Guidelines**

* Each pupil will attend a 5/6 week session in a swimming pool at least once during their school life from 3rd – 6th class
* Costs incurred by hiring of pool, payment of instructors and hire of bus necessitate a charge on each pupil. This will be conveyed to the parents a few weeks before classes commence.

**Instructional Arrangements**

* Teachers in charge of the classes going will organize the swimming lessons
* Instruction in the pool will be provided by the coaches

**Travel and Supervision Arrangements**

Pupils will be accompanied by and supervised by class teachers and SNA (if applicable). Should the teachers involved be all female, if there is a male member of staff available he will also go to supervise in the boys changing areas.

**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. All children will take part in lessons unless there is professional advice stating otherwise.

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.

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.

**Monitoring / Evaluation / Review:**

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

Signed:

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Chairperson BOM

Date:

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