

CURRICULUM SWIMMING POLICY

2016

1 Policy Statement

OUR AIM

Our aim is to ensure all primary pupils in Dumfries and Galloway can swim 25m unaided by the end of primary school.

OUR COMMITMENT

Our commitment is that all non-swimmers in P3 and above are provided with an opportunity to learn to swim. All schools will, through engaging with parents, identify which pupils are unable to swim and target the learn to swim programme accordingly.

2 Key Objectives

- To deliver a learn to swim programme targeted at pupils of primary school age who are unable to swim.
- All pupils who cannot swim are provided with the opportunity to learn to swim ie move through the water unaided.
- Pupils learning about water safety (including a dry land programme).
- Pupils develop an appreciation of the enjoyment which can come from swimming.

3 Pupil Involvement

Each pupil identified as a non-swimmer will be provided with a minimum of 8 lessons / maximum and preferred 12 lesson programme (subject to agreement with each Headteacher)

Priority will be given to non-swimmers and 10-20m swimmers identified, in order to meet the aims and commitments of this policy.

The recommended time in the water is:-

- Primary - 30/45 minutes
- Secondary - 30/45 minutes

4 Who is Responsible for Delivering the Curriculum Swimming Programme?

The Council's Active Schools and Community Priority Sports Officer is responsible for:

- 4.1 Coordination, development and implementation of the targeted curriculum swimming provision throughout Dumfries and Galloway.
- 4.2 Programming swimming lessons, transportation arrangements and timetabling teachers to deliver the curriculum swimming programme to primary schools: all swimming teachers used to deliver curriculum swimming will be appropriately qualified and trained.
- 4.3 Forwarding all the information from 4.2 to the Headteacher.

The Headteacher is responsible for:

- 4.4 Identifying which pupils within their school are non-swimmers (P3 upwards) and forwarding this information to the Active Schools and Community Priority Sports Officer.
- 4.5 Allowing pupils who did not receive the required criteria to return until they either pass the required level or reach P7.
- 4.6 Issuing a letter to parents indicating the date and time of the swimming programme together with relevant permission and medical information forms.

All forms are required by the facility co-ordinator no later than the Friday prior to the sessions commencing.

In terms of secondary school curriculum swimming provision a teacher of Physical Education will be responsible for the teaching of swimming to comply with NQ requirements.

All curriculum swimming teachers must acquire a current safety qualification appropriate to the pool where they teach.

5 In-Service Training

There will be continuous training for all those who teach swimming in order to keep them informed of changes in techniques of stroke production, lifesaving and resuscitation. This will be organised by the Active Schools and Community Priority Sports Officer.

6 Safety Precautions

Leisure and Sport facilities staff and curriculum swimming teachers are responsible for ensuring that each facility Normal Operating Procedure and Emergency Action Plans are implemented at all times.

In the primary sector a responsible adult from the school must be in attendance with the group, remaining on poolside, and give assistance with supervision at all times. This adult must have the relevant information on the children eg the class register which indicates pupils' names, attendance record and medical history. Further information can be found in the authority's Volunteer Policy 2015 and the Protection of Vulnerable Groups (PVG) Scheme: Guidance for Schools 2015.

The School Excursions – Off-site Safety Procedures for Schools 2014, Section 5.1 gives guidance on ratios.

7 Additional Support Needs

Swimming as an activity confers particularly important benefits on pupils with additional support needs. These benefits are inherent in the type of movement experience and sensory feedback which swimming provides. They are also enhanced by the building of confidence through success, the building of awareness of personal safety and consideration of the safety of others, and in the opportunities to acquire self-help and organisational skills.

Maximum group size is specified by contractual constraints. In order to meet the needs of the pupils in water based environment the Headteacher in consultation with the Active Schools and Community Priority Sports Officer, must exercise professional discretion with regard to group size and organisation. Where the need requires it, a one-to-one ratio should be available. The decision about group size and organisation should take account of:

- Safety
- Ability
- Medical conditions
- Behavioural aspects
- Level of health and fitness
- Range of special educational needs present in the group

It is essential that the Headteacher and teacher of swimming are aware of any medical condition which would prevent pupils entering the pool or would have implications for organisation and safety while in the pool.

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