

## **Swimming Policy**

### **Aims/Purposes**

- To enable pupils to acquire basic swimming skills while they are at Glencastle N.S.
- To comply with the requirements of the Revised Curriculum in aquatics.

### **Procedures Guidelines**

- Each pupil will attend a 6 week session in a swimming pool annually from infants – 6<sup>th</sup> class & Autism Class.
- The swimming pool at Éalu Leisure Centre has been reserved for six weeks in the third term at a time and date available.
- Costs incurred by hiring of pool, and payment of instructors and transport necessitate a charge being imposed on each pupil. This charge will depend upon numbers for transport costs. Inability to pay will not preclude a pupil from participating fully in swimming classes.
- Pupils from our special class will have access to swimming / hydrotherapy sessions each year.
- For pupils with compromised health and mobility issues, swimming sessions are arranged at the hydrotherapy pool at Áras Atracta, Swinford.

### **Instructional Arrangements**

- The Principal will organize the swimming programme for all classes from Infants to sixth
- The teacher in the Special Class will arrange swimming programme each year.
- Instruction in the pool will be provided by the staff at Éalu Leisure Centre.

### **Travel and Supervision Arrangements**

Pupils will be accompanied by and supervised by the Principal and/or class teacher on the way to the pool from the school. Pupils will travel by bus and class teachers and/or SNA's will provide supervision before and after the swimming lesson.

### **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.

## Scoil Mhuire Gleann a' Chaisil

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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.

### **Changing**

Parents of Junior and Senior Infants are asked to help change their children after swimming in the ladies changing room with teachers present. 1<sup>st</sup> class children are taught organisational and dressing skills during changing time. From 2<sup>nd</sup> Class up children are expected to change themselves independently. Where a child has additional needs and needs help with life skills and intimate care two adults remain in the changing room at all times and parents may be requested to assist SNA's.  
(see intimate care policy)

### **Monitoring / Evaluation / Review:**

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

Updated: October 2017