

Learn • Trust • Respect • Sense of Humour

SWIMMING & WATER SAFETY POLICY

RATIONALE:

Swimming and water safety are an integral and essential part of the physical education program. Becoming a confident and competent swimmer is essential to student safety, as well as increasing opportunities for both leisure and sporting pursuits.

AIMS:

To develop confident and competent swimmers who display the skills, knowledge and confidence required to enjoy swimming and other aquatic activities in safety.

IMPLEMENTATION GUIDELINES:

The school's annual swimming and water safety program will be organised and co-ordinated by the Physical Education teacher and will only involve the use of municipal and commercial swimming pools, and will comply with DEECD requirements at all times. This developmental program will provide a number of components aimed at educating students to be more aware of risks and safety behaviours in or around water. This will include provision general safety information accessed through programs such as 'Sink or Swim', run by Life Saving Victoria and open to students at all Year levels as well as age appropriate programs, such as First Aid Training for students in Years 3 to 6. Our water safety program will also be supported by our annual Learn to Sail program run by Mornington Yacht Club.

A short, intensive program with a focus on skill development will be offered annually to all students in Year 1 & 2.

Beginners: (shallow water – little or no experience) 1 staff to maximum 10 students.

Intermediate: (basic skills and able to swim 25 metres with a recognizable stroke) 1 staff to maximum 10 students

Advanced: (able to swim 50 metres using 2 recognizable strokes and demonstrate 1 survival stroke in deep water) 1 staff to maximum 10 students.

- The swimming program will follow Levels 1-7 of the YMCA Aquasafe Aquatic Education program.
- All year levels will be involved in the program.
- The program will consist of a 45 minute lesson to be taken over a two week rotation.
- Parents must provide a completed and signed swimming permission form for their child to participate in the program.
- Staff, associated with the swimming program, are to be made familiar with medical histories of students in respect to epilepsy, diabetes, asthma and heart conditions, and

appropriate measures taken. (refer SOTF Reference Guide 4.4.4.7 – Swimming: medical warnings). Students with ear infections, throat infections, colds, papillomas and other contagious infections will not be permitted to enter the water until they have recovered.

- Costs associated with swimming programs must be paid by parents prior to the commencement of the program. Parents experiencing financial difficulty should contact the Principal.
- Cost of entry to the pool only [not transport costs] will be refunded if a student is unable to attend swimming lessons.

Pool Safety:

- The teacher must be able to see the students throughout the session.
- Students must be registered or counted before and after each lesson.
- All routines and relative emergency procedures should be brought to the attention of the pupils when they visit the pool.

Student Behaviour:

- Students should be encouraged to go to the toilet before entering the pool.
- Jewellery should be removed before entering the pool.
- Students should enter and exit the pool via the steps.

EVALUATION:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

School Use Only

Version	6
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Ratified	20/3/17