



Highcliffe St. Mark Primary School & Fledglings Pre-School

A Church of England Foundation School

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Dear Parents and Carers,

SWIMMING

We are excited to let you know that our pool is now ready for use. Swimming is a very important part of our curriculum offer and there is a national requirement for all children in KS2 to have the opportunity to learn to swim.

Children in KS2 will swim weekly on their PE day. Weather permitting, swimming will start after half term.

Children in Year 1 and 2 will have the chance to use our pool, too:

Year 2 children will swim for 3 Fridays 5th, 12th and 19th June.

Year 1 will then use the pool on 26th June, 3rd, and 10th July.

Year R will have this opportunity next year. Children in KS1 should come to school in their PE kit on a swimming day as well as their usual PE day.

Adverse Weather

If swimming is cancelled due to adverse weather conditions, we may not be able to reschedule due to availability of the pool. If a year group is unlucky enough to miss more than one swimming day, we will rearrange their sessions where possible and keep parents informed.

Swimming Kit

- **1 piece costume or Swim shorts** with NO pockets. Rash vests are allowed.
- **Towel** - We recommend the over the head style which offers children some privacy when changing.
- **Swim hat** - All children must wear a swim hat in the pool. We have a limited number of school swimming hats in house colours which you can order on Arbor.
- **Spare T/shirt** to wear when poolside.
- Goggles are optional.

We have plenty of arm bands and noodles in school for the children to use so you don't need to pack these with their swimming kit.

Please make sure that all kit is clearly marked with your child's name and in a waterproof bag.

Verrucae

If your child has a verruca, they are still able to swim. Please treat the verruca with a product from your pharmacy.

Earrings

Children are **not** allowed to wear earrings in our pool. These **must** be removed beforehand, ideally at home in the morning. If children cannot remove earrings independently then they will be unable to swim on that day.



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SCHOOL
2023 - 2024



Suncream

We strongly advise parents to apply a waterproof long lasting suncream on their swimming day. Children are permitted to reapply suncream after swimming. Parents should provide a named suncream in their child's kit. Roll on types are easiest and less messy than liquid alternatives. Please note that we do not allow aerosol spray on suncream and children should be independent in applying this. Staff can guide and advise children but cannot apply suncream to your child.

Voluntary Contribution

Our pool is a wonderful resource and we are one of only a few schools to have this available to us on site. However, it is old and some of our rules are there to protect its mechanisms. The upkeep, insurance and running costs are high and forever rising. We would greatly appreciate it if parents could make a voluntary contribution of £8 to help cover these ongoing costs and help us to keep our pool open. You will find the payment on your Arbor account under clubs. If you would like to contribute a little more or less, you can choose to do this by adding a different payment amount in Arbor.

If you have any queries or concerns about swimming please get in touch or speak to your child's class teacher.

Very best wishes,



Claire Barker