



Dear families,

9th September 2022

I wanted to write to you to give you more information regarding the swimming provision we offer our KS2 children at Catcott Primary School.

Since 1994, swimming and water safety has been a statutory element of the national curriculum for physical education in England. This means that every 11-year old child should leave primary school with the skills to keep themselves safe while enjoying swimming with friends and family. Swimming is the only sport to be included within the national curriculum physical education programme of study. All primary schools must provide swimming and water safety lessons in either Key Stage 1 or 2. This means that the swimming provision we offer is not optional and cannot be opted out of, just like other areas of the curriculum.

Each pupil is required to be able to do the following:

- Perform safe self-rescue in different water based situations
- Swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of **at least 25 metres**
- Use a range of strokes effectively, for example, front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke.

As a school we believe that swimming is an essential life skill and we want to provide all children with the ability to swim confidently and be able to keep themselves safe should they ever get in to trouble near water. In order to meet the requirements of the curriculum, and give opportunities for children to master this important skill, we provide swimming instructions to Years 2-4 and then booster sessions to any children who require further support in years 5 and 6. We have found this early intervention starting in year 2 has really supported the children.

Headteacher: Laura Constanza
Deputy Headteacher: Hannah Lintern

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We are committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and young people and all staff share this commitment. If you have a concern about the welfare or safety of child please speak directly to Mrs Constanza (DSL) or Miss Lintern (DDSL).

www.catcottprimary.co.uk

We are very lucky to have Mrs Varney, who is our swimming lead. She is trained as a level 2 swimming coach, who coaches swimmers from 5 years old to national level. This means that the children who are already able to swim competently and confidently in a range of strokes, get further tuition to master their strokes and develop further life-saving skills. Our swimming provision is also supported by Fusion Lifestyle who provide swimming instruction to the children who are less confident.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you would like further information about the swimming provision we offer at Catcott.

Yours sincerely,

Hannah Lintern