



Ecclesfield Primary School

High Street
Ecclesfield
SHEFFIELD
S35 9UD

Tel: 0114 2467396

Fax: 0114 2570854

E-mail: enquiries@ecclesfield-pri.sheffield.sch.uk
Executive Head J. Eagleton BSc Hons PGCE NPQH

16th September 2020

Swimming Lessons - Y4W

Dear Parents and Carers,

In Y4, your child will be taking part in a programme of swimming lessons at Thorncliffe Leisure Centre. These lessons will take place on Wednesday afternoons, commencing on **Wednesday 23rd September 2020** and lasting until **Wednesday 10th February 2021**. All lessons are free of charge and there is no charge for transport to and from the pool.

PLEASE NOTE THAT DUE TO THE TIME SLOT WE HAVE BEEN GIVEN, THE CHILDREN WHO ARE IN Y4W WILL NOT BE LEAVING THORNCLIFFE UNTIL 3PM AND WILL THEREFORE NOT BE ARRIVING BACK AT SCHOOL UNTIL APPROXIMATELY 3.20-3.30PM. THEY WILL THEN NEED TO RETURN TO THEIR CLASSROOM TO COLLECT THEIR BELONGINGS. COULD ALL PARENTS PLEASE COLLECT THEIR CHILD FROM HANWELL CLOSE (MAIN ENTRANCE) AS USUAL.

In response to the Government guidelines, these are the updated changes presented to us by Swim Sheffield and Thorncliffe Leisure centre:

- Swimming lessons will remain at 40-minutes. Gaps of between 5 to 15 minutes (venue specific) have been put in place to allow sufficient time between the lessons for cleaning and to reduce the chance of clustering groups.
- Thorough hand washing with soap or, if not available, hand-sanitiser, should be undertaken by all pupils, school teachers and the workforce before and after the lesson.
- Pupils will be expected to shower at home. **At Thorncliffe, boys are expected to come 'beach ready' whereas girls are able to quickly get changed using the facilities before the lesson.** Boys therefore must come ready to swim with their swimwear under their clothes. The children will need to bring a towel and wear a swimming costume (no bikini/ tankinis) or swimming trunks (no shorts below the knee).



- Swimming teachers will have their own individual equipment bag which will be cleaned after each lesson. Submerging equipment in adequately disinfected swimming pool water will reduce the risk of transmission of enveloped viruses. Equipment that cannot be sanitized in the pool should be appropriately cleaned between activities including surfaces in high traffic areas such as handrails.
- **Changing areas can be used after the lessons**, however there is no access to showers. Toilets can be used but managed as one in/one out. The children will have a maximum of 10 minutes after the session to dry and get change to allow for cleaning.
- The venue staff will perform a deep clean of the facility at least once per day with intermittent sanitized wipe round. If there is a first-aid incident or similar, the cleaning procedures may take longer than usual and could cause delays to the sessions while areas are made safe.
- The venue staff will also perform regular quality assurance checks.

Swimming is part of the National Curriculum and all children are required to take part. Children are expected to achieve the National Curriculum standard by the end of the sessions which is to swim at least 25 metres unaided. If for any reason your child is ill and cannot go swimming we will need a note from you saying why she/he cannot go swimming.

To give you more advice and a further update, we will be holding zoom meetings for Y4 parents on Thursday 17th September 2020 at 3:30pm and 4:15pm.

Please complete the £0.00 sQuid offer entitled “Y4 Swimming Lessons” Friday 18th September 2020, to give permission for your child to attend and to confirm that both you and your child have read the rules of the pool.

If you have any questions about swimming please do not hesitate to contact us.

Yours sincerely,

Miss Bulmer and Mr Wells



MESSAGE FROM SCHOOL SWIMMING SHEFFIELD

The Covid-19 pandemic and School Swimming:

The priority for Ecclesfield Primary School and the School Swimming Service is to make sure that pupils, school teachers and swimming teachers are always as safe as possible whilst providing quality educational experiences for our pupils. The School Swim Service is working closely with the venues to enable children to get back to learning this vital life skill. The team are closely monitoring the covid-19 pandemic and are operating well within government guidelines. If you want to view risk assessments and venue specific procedure please click here <https://www.sheffieldschoolswimming.co.uk/covid19/>. All procedures have been implemented in line with current guidance and advice from Swim England and the Government, as well as monitoring the local response.

In the event the UK Government or local authority advises us to close one or all of the pools we will suspend lessons for the required period of time. We will reopen when we are advised to do so and when it is considered safe. **We will keep you informed.**

Steps taken to keep children safe at school swimming lessons:

- The school swimming timetable has been amended to accommodate lessons at the pools that are opening.
- There is extra time between lessons to avoid schools meeting in venues, to allow for more cleaning of the pool side and changing rooms.
- We have purchased extra equipment and have all the necessary PPE for our staff.
- School staff will be required to wear coverings on the transport and whilst entering the leisure facilities.
- All school to pool transport is fully risk assessed and they have cleaning procedures in place.



AT THE POOL

- Go to the changing room, get undressed quickly and quietly and put all your clothes into your bag. Make sure that your bag is fastened.
- **ALL** earrings **must** be removed – your child will not be allowed to enter the pool if they have earrings in, even if they have just been pierced.
- If you are **ASTHMATIC** use your inhaler before going onto the pool side. Teachers will take all inhalers onto the poolside.
- Go to the toilet before the start of the lesson.
- Go and sit quietly on the pool side near the teacher.



PLEASE REMEMBER THE FOLLOWING IMPORTANT RULES

- Always follow the instruction of the **POOL STAFF** or your **TEACHERS** **IMMEDIATELY** and at all times.
- You are not allowed to wear jewellery.
- You are not allowed to eat sweets, chew gum, etc.
- You are not allowed to run on the pool side (always walk everywhere).
- If you hear a whistle or the drowning alarm, get safely out of the pool immediately and sit quietly on the pool side.
- If you see someone in difficulty tell the teacher **IMMEDIATELY!** **Do not do anything yourself!**



IF YOU DO NOT OBEY THE RULES

- Swimming pools are very enjoyable and fun places to go to, however, they can be dangerous if not used properly. If you disobey the rules and act in a silly manner you are not only putting yourself in danger but also **OTHER CHILDREN**.
- Any breaking of the rules will be taken **VERY SERIOUSLY** and the following will happen:
 - Warning
 - Time out of lesson (sitting on the side for a set period)
 - Banned from going to the lesson for a set period (your parents will be informed and given the reasons why)
 - If you do something **very dangerous** you will be **BANNED IMMEDIATELY**.
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We have never had to ban anyone from going swimming, as ECCLESFIELD CHILDREN are always sensible, pleasant, co-operative and VERY WELL BEHAVED!!

