

05 November 2021

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to be able to let you know that we are now in the final stages of planning to reopen our school hydrotherapy pool. Unfortunately, we had to make the decision to close the pool during the height of the Covid19 pandemic. We feel that we can now reopen this facility with Covid safe control measures in place.

Whilst the pool has been closed, this has given us the opportunity to reflect and reorganise the way the pool timetable is run. We understand that for many of our pupils, having the opportunity to swim regularly is of great benefit. However, we are now more limited in the number of sessions that are available due to the increase in number of pupils on roll. We want to ensure that time in the pool is a quality experience and have therefore agreed on the following rationale.

- Pupils in Lower and Middle phase classes who have a primary need of Speech, Language and Communication Difficulties, Autistic Spectrum Disorders and/or Severe Learning Difficulties will swim once a week throughout the year. This will be a 1 hour to 1 hour 15-minute slot which will also allow for dressing/showering skills to be taught.
- Pupils in Upper phase classes who have a primary need of Speech, Language and Communication Difficulties, Autistic Spectrum Disorders and/or Severe Learning Difficulties classes will swim on a half termly block. This will mean that each class has the equivalent to 1.5 terms swimming in school each year.
- Pupils in our 14-19 classes who have a primary need of Speech, Language and Communication Difficulties, Autistic Spectrum Disorders and/or Severe Learning Difficulties will access offsite swimming where appropriate.
- Pupils across school with a primary need of Profound, Multiple Learning Difficulties and/or Physical Disabilities will swim once weekly in school throughout the year. This will be as part of a small group session limited to 4 pupils per hour. Additional swimming slots will be available on a time limited, needs basis.

We kindly ask that when notified of your child's swimming session, that you ensure that they have suitable swimming wear in school. This must include swimming nappies/pads where needed. These can be ordered from Amazon (Swimmates). Parents and carers are welcome to send in their child's own arm bands/discs if they wish.

Thank you for your support and patience.

Kind Regards,

Miss Jodie Colbourne  
Head teacher