

**Castlegar NS Swimming Policy**

**Aims/Purposes**

* To enable pupils to acquire basic swimming skills while they are at Castlegar NS.
* To comply with the requirements of the Revised Curriculum in aquatics.

**Rationale**

* The school has regard to both the physical and mental development of each of its pupils. Believing that a healthy body promotes a healthy mind, the school arranges for a eight/ten week course of swimming instruction in the Salthill swimming pool for each of its students during the school year.

**Procedures Guidelines**

* Swimming will be offered to all children from 1st- 6th for a ten week block. If a target of 30 children is not reached, swimming will not be facilitated.
* The swimming pool at Leisureland, Salthill will be booked.
* Attendance at this course fulfils the Aquatics Module of the PE Curriculum as laid down by the Department of Education and parents defray the cost of the course.
* All children are encouraged to participate in aquatics lessons as part of the National Curriculum.
* Pupils will be accompanied by and supervised by teachers and SNAs on the way to the pool from the school. Pupils will travel by coach to the pool and the class teacher will provide supervision before and after the swimming lesson.

**Health and Safety**

* Staff will follow the guidelines of our own Health & Safety and Child Protection policies at all times.
* Pupils are required to behave at all times in a manner that ensures the safety of all involved in school swimming. Pupils must endeavour to obey the instructor’s orders at all times and comply with the School Code of Behaviour.
* Parents/guardians will receive a standard letter providing information on school swimming before their child starts their swimming term.
* Teachers of all classes should remain on the viewing deck during the lesson in order to supervise the overall group and pupils who may need to use the toilets during the lesson.
* The pool will be provided with information regarding any child with a Special Educational Need, physical disability or medical diagnosis that may compromise their safety at swimming, eg. Epilepsy.

**Monitoring / Evaluation / Review:**

Policy is revised annually or at other times if deemed necessary. This policy was last reviewed in March 2018