**Moorthorpe Primary School with Inclusion Resource**

**Swimming Policy 2023-2024**

**Rationale**

Swimming is a life-skill which promotes health and fitness and is a recreation which can be enjoyed throughout life. The ability to swim to safety may save a child’s life. Swimming within Key Stage 1 and/or 2 is a requirement of the National Curriculum 2014.

**Aims**

Aims of the Teaching of Swimming at Moorthorpe Primary School:

• To enable children to develop and explore physical skills with increasing stamina and co-ordination.

• To enable children to develop their confidence in the water by developing the ability to rest, float and adopt support positions

• For all children to be water confident and to be able to swim 25 metres

• To develop efficient swimming strokes on the front and back

• To have knowledge of the principles of water safety and to learn the appropriate skill

**Venue Requirements**

Swimming Lessons in KS2 require a pool which is deep enough to allow taller children to swim comfortably but has enough shallow water to allow children to work within their depth.

The venue needs to meet the school’s safeguarding standards and changing facilities should be separated from adult changing facilities and be able to be supervised by school staff.

The venue should be easily accessible within 30 minutes of travel.

All equipment needed, for example arm bands, floats etc are provided by the venue.

The venue available for 2023-2024 is Minsthorpe Leisure centre. From September to October half term and for the Summer term we walk to the venue. We travel by bus from November to Easter (due to weather conditions).

**Curriculum Requirements**

The National Curriculum 2014 makes swimming a compulsory subject at either key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2 so that every child has the opportunity to learn to:

• 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]

• perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations

**School Swimming Organisation**

Swimming is currently offered to children in Years 5 and Year 6 our primary aim is to ensure that all children can swim 25 metres and have an understanding of water safety before they reach Year 6.

Our swim sessions are currently on a Monday morning for 45 minutes each and Moorthorpe Primary has full access to the main pool. Moorthorpe Primary usually only take Year 5 pupils however this year we are taking our Year 5 and Year 6 children. They will get equivalent of a term each, following Year 5 having half a year of weekly lessons last year. Our Y5 & 6 pupils from our Inclusion Resource attend once deemed ready. Three members of staff attend to supervise the changing facilities. The pool is open to the public after our lessons, however our pupils are kept contained to one area of the changing facilities. Children get changed in set changing rooms: one male and one female. No private cubicles are used as a general rule (on occasions this may change if the school before us goes into the changing rooms).

The children are assessed regularly (end of each term). When swimming there are usually 3 groups, which are led by two qualified swimming teachers plus a teacher from Moorthorpe Primary School. Support staff encourage from the side.

**Swimming Teachers**

The school will hire the appropriate number of Professional swimming teachers from the Swim School at Moorthorpe Leisure Centre. These teachers also hold lifeguarding certificates. There will also be additional lifeguards at the pool.

Staff from Moorthorpe Primary will lead groups using the provided laminated plans of the lessons/activities (6-7 weeks) and the activities illustrated upon are to be ticked off when a child is confident.

**Charges for swimming**

As swimming is a requirement of the National Curriculum 2014 PE and Sport Curriculum, there will be no charge made for swimming lessons. Poppletons will be transporting the children to their swimming lessons during the late Autumn/Winter period.

**Responsibilities**

**The Governors** are responsible for ensuring swimming is provided as part of the National Curriculum 2014.

**The Headteacher** is responsible for the organisation and timetabling of swimming and the deployment of staff.

**A member of staff** who knows the children well is responsible for the behaviour and safety of the group of children who are going swimming. This responsibility extends on the bus, at the pool and while the children are changing. The member of school staff supports the swimming teachers in maintaining good discipline in the pool and ensuring all pool rules are followed. The member of staff supervises the children changing in the individual cubicles on the poolside and then acts as an additional spotter on the poolside.

**The swimming teachers** are responsible for planning and delivering swimming lessons, leading water safety lessons, and ensuring poolside and pool safety. The swimming teachers are responsible for assessing pupils’ learning and awarding certificates. The swimming teachers are also required to act as lifeguards if the group is small and are responsible for the deployment of lifeguards if the size of the group or the activity warrants it.

**Safeguarding**

The children will change in set changing rooms (one male and one female). Staff are able to supervise at a distance but should ensure they are close enough to maintain good order. All staff who accompany children to swimming are DBS checked, as are the swimming teachers and the bus drivers.

**Emergency Contacts**

In an emergency, both all staff could be used for supervision. The member(s) of staff accompanying swimming should always carry a mobile phone to summon assistance. All emergency contacts are kept at school; therefore, a ‘phone call’ to Moorthorpe Primary could provide an extra member of staff within 10 minutes if necessary. Alternatively, Moorthorpe Primary office staff would be responsible for contacting parents if necessary. All staff who attend swimming should be aware of any allergies or required medication or medical conditions. First aid kits should be taken with the member(s) of staff.

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