



Airedale Junior Academy

SWIMMING POLICY

Date 2025-2026



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Information	Dates
Last reviewed	Jan 2026
Next review	Jan 2027
Owner	K McKechnie
Approver	S Butterfield

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1. Rationale

Swimming is a life-skill which promotes health and fitness and is also a recreation which can be enjoyed throughout life. The ability to swim to safety may save a child's life. School teaches our pupils each year how to stay safe near water and this is further reinforced when they learn this in their lessons. Swimming within Key Stage 1 and/or 2 is a requirement of the National Curriculum 2014.

2. Care. Aspire. Succeed links

Care	Safety and lifelong health/well-being. Safe, self-rescue
Aspire	Being a competent & confident swimmer. Developing stamina, coordination, and stroke efficiency.
Succeed	Achieving the 25m goal and mastering National Curriculum skills.

3. Statement of Intent/Aims

Aims of the Teaching of Swimming at Airedale Junior Academy:

- ✓ To enable children to develop and explore physical skills with increasing stamina and coordination.
- ✓ To enable children to develop their confidence in the water by being able 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 related skills
- ✓ Safe, self-rescue





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4. Roles and Responsibilities

Swimming Teachers

The school hires the appropriate number of professional swimming teachers from the venue. There will also be additional lifeguards at the pool. Teachers will follow a lesson plan provided by the swimming teachers when teaching their group. Teachers from Airedale Junior Academy will lead groups using pre-prepared plans which incrementally build pupils' confidence and competence.

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. Risk assessments are reviewed each year to accommodate this and ensure that all staff are appraised of the potential hazards. Individual risk assessments are also planned and shared for individual pupils who need this.

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 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.

5. Links to other policies and procedures

Keeping Children Safe in Education
Safeguarding Policy
Health & Safety Policy
SEND Policy
PE Policy





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6. Statement of Implementation

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 Year 5 and our primary aim is to ensure that all children can swim 25 metres and have an understanding of water safety before they reach the end of Year 6.

Currently, Year 5 swim for a proportion the year. When swimming, the children are in ability groups which are led by two qualified swimming teachers plus staff from Airedale Junior Academy

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. The bus/coach provider must have seatbelts and a risk assessment for transport is in place.

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

The pool is closed to the public and other school swimming sessions, however there may be a cross over between schools – staff have registers and pupil knowledge to identify our own pupils during these transition periods to prevent unauthorised contact. Pupils will also be in AJA school uniform. Children get changed in set changing rooms: one male and one female. Private cubicles are used where needed.

7. Monitoring and Evaluation

The children are assessed regularly end of each term and ongoing throughout each session – the venue provides the criteria for assessment. Their successes and areas for further development and strengthening are used to inform future lessons and groupings

Swimming related data will be published annually in line with DfE requirements





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Children not achieving the required 25m competency aim by the end of Year 5 will be considered for additional sessions during Year 6.

8. Health and Safety

Safeguarding

The children will change in set changing rooms (one male and one female). The member of staff monitoring the changing area will ensure safety and efficiency, respecting the privacy of children while remaining available to provide assistance or maintain order. Individual cubicles are available when required.

All staff who accompany children to swimming are DBS checked, as are the swimming teachers and the bus drivers. If a parent is invited to accompany the group they will be supervised throughout and if they are supporting their child whilst in the changing room, will also be DBS checked.

Emergency Contacts

In an emergency, swimming teachers could be used for supervision. The member(s) of staff accompanying swimming should always carry a mobile phone to summon assistance and use the phone for emergency use only: (the use of mobile phones for photography or personal use in changing areas or poolside is strictly prohibited)

All emergency contacts are kept at school; therefore, a 'phone call' to Airedale Junior Academy could provide a member of staff within 15 minutes if necessary. Alternatively, a member of the school's office staff would be responsible for contacting parents if necessary.

Staff will follow the venue's Emergency Action Plan in the event of a fire or pool emergency.

Staff will follow the venue's agreed approach on the use of goggles.

All staff who attend swimming are aware of any allergies or required medication or medical conditions. First aid kits are taken with the member(s) of staff along with the medical bags and an emergency inhaler.

