



Wolviston Mill Lane, Billingham, TS22 5LU



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**St Paul's**  
Catholic Primary School



A Proud Member of  
**BISHOP  
HOGARTH**  
Catholic Education Trust

Head Teacher: Sheena Sinclair

6<sup>th</sup> June 2024

Dear Parents and Carers,

I hope this letter finds you well.

You will be aware that, earlier in school, your child participated in the fortnightly swimming block in the Autumn and Spring term. There are several skills which children need to achieve and demonstrate during these sessions to ensure that they reach the expected standard for this area of the PE curriculum.

Although most pupils achieved their 25m swimming certificate, most did not achieve the requirement to use a range of stroke' or perform a self-safe rescue.

This means that we are able to take the children back to the pool to ensure that as many as possible achieve the requirements expected. Mrs Wilson and Miss Wood will accompany the children.

Therefore, your child will be participating in Tees Actives School Swimming Programme at Billingham Forum from **Monday 10<sup>th</sup> June – Friday 21<sup>st</sup> June. (The length of attendance may vary depending on the needs of the children – we will keep you updated). Please note that the children will not attend swimming on Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> June (due to an educational visit to Yarm School) or on Wednesday 19<sup>th</sup> June (due to it being our Sports Day).**

They will participate in a 45-minute lesson and will depart school via bus daily at approximately 12.50pm and will return to school at approximately 2.20pm. Lunch time arrangements will not be affected by swimming. Lessons are delivered by Tees Active School Swimming Teachers (Swim England Level 2 Swimming Teachers) assisted by school staff. The pools will be supervised by fully qualified RLSS Pool Lifeguards.

**School swimming lessons are part of the National Curriculum and therefore it is kindly requested that parents do not attend the pool specifically to watch their child participate in school swimming lessons. This often causes more of a distraction to the child and their class mates.**

Our aim is to remove as many barriers as possible so that children can enjoy their lessons. The following information should help you prepare for your child's lessons.

- Swimwear
  - o Girls – one-piece swimsuit
  - o Boys – swimming shorts or trunks (no long / baggy shorts or football shorts please)
  - o If required, a close fitting / dark coloured t-shirt / leggings can be worn over the top of appropriate swimwear.
- Towel
  - o Please pack two towels- one for drying and one for your child to stand on while they get dry.
- Goggles
  - o If using goggles, children must be able to put them on independently.
  - o Please be aware that elements of the school swimming programme will at times require the children to remove their goggles. Teachers may also request for goggles to be removed while instruction is being given, to ensure they have eye contact with children.

*In Him we Live and Move and Have our Being*



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- Swimming Hat
  - o It is strongly recommended that children with longer hair wear a hat to avoid potential problems occurring during their swimming sessions.
- Pyjamas
  - o During the 2-weeks of lessons, your child may be asked to swim in pyjamas as part of our water safety programme. **They do not need to bring pyjamas unless requested to do so.**
- Jewellery
  - o In line with our uniform policy, no jewellery should be worn. If your child usually wears a watch, we recommend that they do not wear it during the swimming fortnight.

Soap and shampoo are not required.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you require any additional information.

Yours sincerely,

Sheena Sinclair  
Head Teacher

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