

## SWIMMING AT EASTBROOK PRIMARY ACADEMY – 2016/17



Dear Parents and Carers

We are writing to let you know the arrangements for swimming lessons this year. Swimming for Years 2 – 6 will start week commencing 12<sup>th</sup> September and will continue for 6 weeks until the half term holiday, before resuming again during the Summer Term.

As we explained at the end of last year we have always operated the swimming pool on a contribution basis but last year we did not receive enough money to cover the basic running costs: heating, chemicals and our instructor's salary. This means we have had no choice but to start operating swimming lessons in a different way, or accept that the swimming pool will have to close.

If you would like your child to receive weekly swimming lessons you will need to pay for them in advance. **Payments will need to be received before Friday 23<sup>rd</sup> September.** If payment is not received by this date your child will not be able to continue swimming and other learning activities will be arranged.

**The cost for swimming lessons in Years 2 – 6 will be a one off payment of £30 (for 3 half terms).** This equates to approximately **£1.50** per swim. We hope you agree that this is still good value (other schools charge about £7 a swim because transport costs need to be added in). Swimming is also an important life skill, particularly as we live so close to the sea.

If you do not want your child to have weekly swimming lessons their swimming will be organised like all the other schools in the locality that don't have their own pool. This means one term is allocated, in which all the pupils in one year group get an opportunity to swim, ensuring coverage of the National Curriculum. The allocated time for swimming lessons at Eastbrook will be during the Summer Term for children in Year 5. Swimming in this term will continue to operate on a contribution basis.

For your information the curriculum requirements are:

### *Swimming and water safety*

*All schools must provide swimming instruction either in key stage 1 or key stage 2.*

*In particular, pupils should be taught 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.*

Payments can be made via Parent Pay or at the office. If you have any difficulty in paying this amount, please see the school office in confidence before the first swimming lesson to avoid your child missing any sessions.

To help spread the cost of swimming lessons over the year there will also be an option to pay £10 at the beginning of each term or £5 at the beginning of each half term.

**We really hope everyone will support the school and continue with the swimming lessons as they certainly help to make Eastbrook special.**

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Please complete the slip below indicating your preference

I would like my child \_\_\_\_\_ to have swimming lessons (Autumn 1 and Summer Term). Class \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to make one payment of £30 for the full year and enclose a cheque/cash or will pay on parent pay.

I would like to make three payments of £10 and enclose a cheque/cash or will pay on parent pay.

I would like to make six payments of £5 and enclose a cheque/cash or will pay on parent pay.

Signed \_\_\_\_\_ (parent/carer)      Date \_\_\_\_\_

Swimming afternoons for the Autumn Term will be as follows:

Day	Year
Monday	Year 3
Tuesday	Year 2
Wednesday	Year 5
Thursday	Year 6
Friday	Year 4

We have included some further details about the swimming lessons and the kit your child will need. If you have any questions please don't hesitate to ask a teacher or the office.

Yours sincerely

**Mrs J Sherlock - Headteacher**

### **Additional Information: Swimming at Eastbrook Primary Academy**

We have taught swimming for many years and believe that it develops the children, not only physically but also develops their self-confidence and self-esteem.

#### **Your child will need: -**

- A one piece swimming costume, not bikini for girls or fitted shorts, not Bermudas for boys
- A swimming hat, boys & girls (this is a requirement under Health & Safety Regulations). These can be purchased in house colours from the office for £1.20
- A large towel
- A pair of flip flops or plastic shoes (these will be worn from the changing rooms into the pool area)
- A water proof bag to carry the kit

Please name **all** of the kit. We suggest naming the swimming hat on the outside at the front in large letters in waterproof pen.

Goggles and armbands may be used during swimming lessons but must be adjusted to fit your child before bringing them into school. Floats are provided by school.

**No jewellery is allowed (Health & Safety Regulations). This includes earrings. As teachers are not allowed to remove or tape earrings, please remove these at home on the morning your child will swim ready for swimming lessons. Unfortunately if your child comes to school wearing earrings they will not be allowed to swim. Additionally, please be aware that nail varnish and false nails cannot be worn in the pool.**

Children change in the changing rooms. Teachers and classroom assistants will be in the changing rooms to ensure that your child dresses him/herself but adults are not allowed to help dry the children (this is due to Child Protection).

#### **All clothes need to be named including underwear.**

Unless there are overriding medical reasons all children are required to take part in swimming lessons. We would ask for your co-operation to provide the necessary kit in the morning on the days that your child swims as we do not have spare kit at school.