

BELMONT PRIMARY SCHOOL

SWIMMING POLICY



Rationale:

Swimming is an integral and essential part of the Physical Education Program. Becoming a confident and competent swimmer is essential to student safety, as well as increasing opportunities for both leisure and sporting pursuits.

Aim:

- To develop confident and competent swimmers who display the skills, knowledge and understanding that will enable them to comprehend aquatic dangers and to participate safely in aquatic activities.

Broad Guidelines:

The swimming program is designed to assist students to;

- Develop confidence and knowledge in the water by providing a wide variety of appropriate situations and activities;
- Make participation in swimming an enjoyable and social experience;
- Allow all children the opportunity to participate in a sequence of swimming survival, water safety, rescue and emergency procedure experiences;
- Develop swimming strokes, water skills and personal safety awareness;
- Encourage participation in aquatic activities as a leisure pursuit.

Implementation:

- The school's annual swimming program will be organised and co-ordinated by the School Administration Staff along with the Physical Education teacher, will only involve the use of municipal and commercial swimming pools and will comply with DET requirements at all times.
- Swimming lessons shall be available to all children in grades Prep to six and consist of approximately 4-5 hours of instruction or 8-10/ 30 minute lessons over 2 weeks.
- Children not involved in the swimming program will remain at school and be supervised by remaining classroom teachers.
- Children not attending swimming should provide a written note either for the whole program or on a lesson basis.
- Austswim qualified instructors will be employed as required to ensure group sizes are appropriate for the level or needs of the students. All instructors will be licenced with Swim and Survive and conduct their Swim and Survive Program.
- A list of staff and children on the bus and attending the swimming session will be left at the school office prior to departure.
- School staff will assume responsibility for change room supervision, respecting students' rights to privacy where possible. Parents with a Working with Children Check may assist in the change rooms if requested by attending school staff.
- All staff are aware of the Swimming Centre's Emergency Procedures.
- Parents must provide a completed and signed swimming permission form for their child to participate in the program; and staff associated with the swimming program are to be made familiar with medical histories of students in respect to epilepsy, diabetes, asthma and heart or other conditions and appropriate measures taken to ensure the safety of the students. Permission forms with student contact details will be taken to the pool each session by the classroom teacher or teacher in charge.
- Some costs associated with swimming programs will be paid by parents prior to the commencement of the program. Parents experiencing financial difficulties will be encouraged to contact the office.

Further Information:

- The Department of Education meets the costs of instruction for all public and private primary school students. Parents pay a fee to cover transport and entry costs into the swimming centre.
- Reference: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/curriculum/pages/swimming.aspx>
- Swim and Survive: <http://www.swimandsurvive.com.au/>

Evaluation:

- A record of each child's swimming performance will be maintained and provided to all parents as soon as possible after the conclusion of the program.
- The effectiveness of the Swimming Program will be evaluated in consultation with the attending staff, Principal and PE teacher.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in.....

August 2017

Review Date: 2021