



GLEBE PRIMARY SCHOOL
UNITED LEARNING ACADEMY

Swimming Policy
2024-2026

Updated: Summer 2024
New Review: Summer 2026

Approved by the Local Governing Board on 23rd April 2024

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "J. Dempster", is written over a light blue horizontal line.

Signed by: Mr. James Dempster
Position: Chair of the Local Governing Body

Why we provide swimming lessons at Glebe Primary School:

As per the national curriculum: all schools **must** provide swimming instruction either in key stage 1 or key stage 2. The National Curriculum states all 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

How we organise swimming at Glebe Primary School

Swimming at Glebe Primary School is taught by qualified swimming teachers at Wadurs Swimming Pool, Shoreham by Sea.

Children are taught to swim in Year 2 (6 weeks), Year 3 (10 weeks), Year 4 (10 weeks) and Year 5 (6 weeks) totalling 32 weeks of swimming tuition.

Children are assessed every year by the swimming teachers according to the National Curriculum and any children who do not meet the minimum requirements after Year 5 are offered “Top Up” swimming sessions in Year 6 for 6 weeks in order to give them a further opportunity to meet National Curriculum standards.

Children will walk to and from Wadurs with Glebe staff and any parent/carer volunteers.

Roles and Responsibilities

- The role of the member of staff in charge:
- The welfare of children in changing room;
- Overall maintenance of good discipline;
- Maintaining regular head counts
- Marking the attendance register;
- Ensuring the safety of all children and maintain a safe working environment

The role of the PE subject leader:

- To undertake a risk assessment of the school’s swimming provision annually and monitor its implementation on an ongoing basis;
- To ensure that the law relating to SEND is followed whereby schools take all reasonable steps to avoid discriminating against pupils on the grounds of their disability.
- To maintain and keep a record of the pupils’ swimming achievements inside and outside of school.
- To report to the governing body annually on the impact of the school’s swimming provision (on Sport Premium action plan document).
- Ensure the recommended teacher ratios are adhered to. (See Appendix 1)
- To ensure annual briefing sessions take place with all staff involved with swimming provision.

The swimming instructor(s) will:

- Possess DBS clearance.

- Have full ASA Teachers Award or an STA equivalent as well as a life-saving award recognised by Health and Safety Unit.
- Possess a relevant First Aid certificate.
- Make sure all children and teachers know safety drills.
- Have all equipment ready and in the correct place in the teaching area.
- Consult with the accompanying teacher and agree arrangements to be made about the provision for children with special needs and confirm risk assessment.
- Ensure children know the procedure for the start/end of lesson, their grouping and assigned area of pool and teacher.
- To assess and record pupil progress.
- Organise classes according to: Class numbers, Pupil ability, Numbers of teachers/adult helpers

Safeguarding considerations for swimming

- Some signs of abuse may become apparent while children and young people are getting changed. For example, you might notice changes in behaviour, children being uncomfortable getting changed or unusual marks and bruises.
- All Glebe staff are trained to recognise the signs of abuse and know what procedures to follow if they have any concerns about a child and young person.
- Changing areas could be places where young people are more vulnerable to child-on-child abuse such as bullying or harmful sexual behaviour. Glebe staff monitor both changing rooms in order to keep children safe while allowing them privacy too.

Staff supervision: safeguarding measures

- Depending on the age and developmental needs of the children, it might not be necessary for adults to remain in the changing room in order to maintain good behaviour; being in close proximity and students being aware of this is sometimes enough.
- Students know that adults are in earshot of what is happening in the room and will enter if necessary - in response to a disturbance for example.
- Staff should also consider the following principles of best practice. E.g It may be possible to leave the door of designated changing rooms slightly open so that nobody can see inside but staff outside can hear if there is a disturbance.
- If an adult needs to enter the room they should alert children in advance and give children the opportunity to cover up if they want to.
- Where possible, the adults who are supervising children getting changed should be of the same gender as them.
- Adults should never stand in the changing room watching children and young people, or go in and out repeatedly without good reason.
- You should establish a clear code of behaviour and make sure students understand your expectations about their behaviour while they are unsupervised.
- Children and young people should know who to talk to if they have concerns about the behaviour of a member of staff or other young people.
- If concerns are raised these should be taken seriously, and the nominated child protection lead should take appropriate action.

Using off-site changing rooms

- It is not appropriate for schoolchildren to share changing facilities with members of the public and this agreement is already in place with our external provider, Wadurs.
- School sessions take place before public sessions and enough time is booked after the session to allow children to get showered and changed before the public are allowed in.

Attendance

All parents must ensure that their children attend all allocated lessons. As swimming is a statutory part of the National Curriculum. Parents do not have the right to withdraw their children from this statutory element of the National Curriculum, unless the child has an EHCP (Education Health Care Plan). Older children are encouraged to be independent in terms of organising their swimming kits. Children who forget their swimming kits or cannot participate in the lesson for any reason will be required to attend and observe the lessons from the side of the pool. This is in line with the other aspects of the PE curriculum delivery. Parents of children returning from an illness that would prevent them from swimming for a short period of time **must** provide the school with medical evidence of the illness in order that they may be excused from the lesson. Should a child not be able to swim for an extended period of time, a Doctor's letter **must** be provided.

Swimming Kit

Girls should wear a one-piece swimsuit and boys should wear swimming trunks (not baggy 'board shorts'). All children should wear a swim hat, with girls ensuring that their hair is tied up. Provision must be made for alternative attire for minority ethnic pupils when a request is made.