

Triangle CofE Primary School

School Swimming Policy



Version	01/26
Name of Policy Writer	Headteacher
Last Reviewed	July 2026
Next Review Due	July 2027

1. Introduction

Swimming and water safety is a statutory element of the National Curriculum for Physical Education. At Triangle CofE Primary School, we are committed to ensuring that all pupils are given the opportunity to become competent, confident and safe swimmers before the end of Key Stage 2.

Swimming is not only a physical activity but an essential life skill. It plays a vital role in personal safety, wellbeing and lifelong participation in sport and recreation.

2. Aims of School Swimming

Our school aims to ensure that all pupils:

- Swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres
- Use a range of strokes effectively (front crawl, backstroke and breaststroke)
- Perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations
- Develop water confidence and an understanding of water safety
- Experience enjoyment, challenge and success in swimming
- Are supported to achieve National Curriculum expectations by the end of Key Stage 2

We also aim to promote lifelong participation in swimming as a key life-saving and health-enhancing activity.

3. National Curriculum Expectations

By the end of Key Stage 2, all pupils are expected to be able to:

- Swim at least 25 metres unaided
- Use a range of recognised strokes effectively
- Perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations

Swimming is the only sport within the PE curriculum where a minimum attainment standard is set for all pupils nationally.

4. Curriculum Entitlement & Organisation

At Triangle CofE Primary School:

- All pupils in Key Stage 2 receive a structured block of swimming lessons
- Typically, all children will access swimming for **approximately half an academic year**.
- Provision is delivered through the Calderdale School Swimming Programme, ensuring high-quality instruction and consistent standards
- Swimming is taught during the school day as part of the PE curriculum

In line with our commitment to equity:

- Pupils who meet National Curriculum expectations may complete their swimming block
- Pupils who have not yet met expectations will continue to access further swimming opportunities until the required standard is achieved
- This ensures targeted support for those who need it most while maintaining entitlement for all learners

5. Equity of Provision

Our swimming model is based on equity rather than equality.

This means:

- All children receive access to swimming
- Additional provision is directed towards pupils who have not yet achieved the National Curriculum standard
- This approach ensures that no child leaves primary school unable to meet statutory expectations

This model replaces previous practice where all pupils received a fixed number of sessions regardless of need. The revised approach ensures greater opportunity for all children to achieve the required standard before the end of Key Stage 2.

6. Monitoring and Review

The school will keep its swimming provision under regular review.

The Sports Lead and Headteacher will evaluate:

- Swimming attainment outcomes
- Participation and engagement
- Progress of different cohorts
- Effectiveness of intervention and additional provision

Adjustments will be made where necessary to ensure the model continues to provide fair and effective access to the National Curriculum for all pupils.

7. Clothing and Equipment

For health, safety and hygiene reasons, pupils must wear appropriate swimming kit:

Girls:

- One-piece swimming costume
- Swimming hat (if hair covers face or airways)
- Towel

Boys:

- Close-fitting swimming trunks
- Swimming hat (if required)
- Towel

Additional requirements:

- No jewellery is permitted
- Long hair must be tied back
- Goggles are only permitted for medical reasons
- Appropriate footwear is required for travel to and from the pool where applicable

8. Parental Support

We recognise the important role parents and carers play in supporting swimming development.

Parents are encouraged to:

- Ensure children are fully equipped for lessons
- Reinforce water safety messages at home
- Support additional swimming opportunities outside school where possible
- Celebrate progress and achievement

We also welcome appropriate volunteer support where it can safely and effectively enhance provision.

9. Charging and Remissions

Swimming is delivered as part of the National Curriculum PE entitlement. Triangle CofE Primary School does not charge for any aspect of school swimming. School swimming, including the cost of transport to Sowerby Bridge Swimming Pool is funded from the main school budget.

A sum of £1000 per year is paid from School Sports Premium to fund 'top-up lessons' for those children who do not meet NC expectations in their main block of swimming instruction.

10. Equal Opportunities & Inclusion

The school is committed to ensuring that all pupils, including those with SEND or additional needs, are fully supported to access swimming provision.

Adaptations may include:

- Additional adult support
- Adjusted teaching approaches
- Specialist equipment where appropriate
- Individual risk assessments where required

11. Policy Review

This policy will be reviewed annually in consultation with staff, governors and the wider school community to ensure it remains effective, equitable and aligned with statutory guidance.