



RATIONALE

Swimming is an integral and essential part of the physical education program. Becoming a confident and competent swimmer is essential for 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 confidence required to enjoy swimming and other aquatic activities in safety.

IMPLEMENTATION

- The school's annual swimming 'Learn to Swim' program will be organised and coordinated by a designated staff member for each VELS level, who will involve the use of municipal and commercial swimming pools, and who will comply with Department of Education and Early Childhood Development (DEECD) requirements at all times.
- A minimum of two staff members will be in attendance at all times, one being a qualified teacher employed by either the School Council or DEECD.
- Minimum overall swimming teacher staff-student ratios will be followed at all times. That is:
- *Beginners* (shallow water – little or no experience): 1 staff to maximum 10 students.
- **Intermediate* (basic skills and able to swim 25 metres with recognisable stroke): 1 staff to maximum 12 students.
- **Advanced* (able to swim 50 metres using 2 recognisable strokes and demonstrate 1 survival stroke in deep water): 1 staff to maximum 15 students.
- Staff members involved in instruction must hold an Austswim Teacher of Swimming & Water Safety certificate.
- At least one staff member either from school or the swimming centre must have current CPR qualifications.
- The swimming program will follow levels 1-7 of the RLSSA Swim & Survive program.
- The program will consist of 30-45 minute lessons over approx 10 sessions.
- Parents must provide completed, signed swimming permission and medical forms for their child to participate in the program and staff associated with the program are to be made familiar with medical histories. Students with contagious infections will not be permitted to enter the water.
- Costs associated with the swimming program must be paid by parents prior to the commencement of the program. Parents experiencing financial difficulties should contact the Principal.
- During camp or excursion experiences, DEECD employees, School Council approved adult supervisors & approved camp staff shall adhere to DEECD guidelines for adult/student ratios in regard to conditions found i.e. surf or pools.

EVALUATION

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's 3-year review cycle.