

South Gippsland Specialist School

SWIMMING POLICY



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the office.

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.

Aims:

- To develop confident and competent swimmers who display the skills, knowledge and confidence required to enjoy swimming and other aquatic activities in a safe manner.

Implementation:

• Staffing

- The school will provide an AUSTSWIM-qualified instructor to oversee the teaching of swimming.
- The school will provide a VIT registered teacher to oversee the supervision of medical, behavioural, and safety requirements of students.
- The teacher will comply with DE&T requirements at all times.
- A minimum of 2 staff members must be in attendance at all times.
- One staff must hold a current AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety certificate. (If the VIT registered teacher holds the Austswim certificate a second staff member must be present at all times.
- At least one staff member must have current CPR qualifications.
- Minimum overall DE&T 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 a 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.
- The swimming program will follow Levels 1-7 of the Royal Life Saving Society, Swim and Survive Water Safety Program.
- All students will be encouraged to participate in at least one swimming session per week, throughout the year.
- An emergency drill will be explained and practiced at the start of the program, and throughout the program.
- All staff will be dressed appropriately. (Swimming shorts and rash vests)
- Parents must provide a completed and signed swimming permission form for their child to participate in the program.

- Staff associated with the swimming program are to be made familiar with medical histories of students in respect to epilepsy, diabetes, asthma, and heart conditions, and must take appropriate measures, please see Department of Education Policy Advisory guide.
- Students with ear infections, throat infections, colds, papilloma's, and other contagious infections will not be permitted to enter the water until they have recovered.
- Any students with Epilepsy, seizure activity, or limited motor control, must have 1:1 support at all times whilst in the pool room or on the pool deck.
- Costs associated with swimming programs must be paid by parents as invoiced by the school. Parents experiencing financial difficulty should contact the Principal.
- All staff will be expected to be appropriately dressed & be able to enter the pool during the swimming session.
- For hygiene reasons students may be required to shower before entering the pool.
- Students that may soil in the pool will be required to wear prescribed swimwear as specified by the coordinator.
- The teacher will consult with the Program Co Ordinator regarding the modification of staff/student ratios.

Evaluation:

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in...	October 31, 2024
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