

# Birchfield Community Primary School

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Head Teacher: Mr Richard Culham B.Ed Hons

'One school, learning together'

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17 July 2017

Dear Parent/Carer

Swimming sessions will be starting for the Year 4 children on a **Thursday morning** commencing **7 September 2017** weekly for **14** sessions starting at **10.30 am**. The children will be taken by coach to Goldenstones, leaving school at 10 am and will return by coach to school.

To be in line with Health and Safety advice and good practice, the Amateur Swimming Association have given schools the following guidelines:

- girls must wear a one-piece swimming costume
- boys must wear tight fitting swimming trunks
- therefore beachwear/Bermuda shorts etc are not allowed
- no earrings

The latest guidelines are to help improve the children's swimming as baggy clothing will become waterlogged and create drag. Similarly with bikinis, they are not always a good fit and so the swimmer is more focused on it staying 'on' rather than thinking about their swimming.

- long hair must be tied back or a swimming hat worn
- goggles may be worn. Please note that we are not allowed for Health and Safety reasons to help children put on or take off their goggles (as they may cause an injury to the eyes if they flick back). Please take the time to teach your child to put on their own goggles.
- please ensure that your child has their inhaler with them if they need one.
- please ensure that we are informed if there are any medical issues that may impact on your child's swimming.

In accordance with the LEA's and the School's Charging Policy we are asking for a voluntary contribution from **all** parents. The cost for your child is £20. This is used towards paying for the coach to and from Goldenstones. Please note that there is no subsidy for those on income support. Cheques should be made payable to Birchfield Community Primary School. Could you please place money/cheques in a sealed envelope with your child's name and Class on, together with the amount enclosed and marked 'Swimming Money' and pass to your child's teacher.

In response to questions from some parents previously, can I take this opportunity to inform you of the arrangements that we made to ensure that the swimming lessons are successful and safe:



Both Y4 classes will go swimming at the same time. 4 – 5 members of staff will accompany them, one of whom is an experienced swimming teacher. Additionally, Goldenstones is lifeguarded by their own fully trained staff and we employ a qualified swimming teacher.

Your child's first lesson is more to do with the rules of water safety. These important messages are then constantly repeated and enforced, particularly if any child does put themselves or others at risk.

In order for the school to place your child in the appropriate group, please could you complete the slip below regarding your child's swimming ability.

Please complete the form below and return it to your child's class teacher by no later than Wednesday 6 September 2017.

If you have any questions please do not hesitate to contact me.

Thank you for your continued co-operation.

Yours sincerely

R. Culham  
**Head Teacher**



Does your child have swimming lessons      YES / NO

If Yes - what level of the **National Teaching Plan** for swimming has he/she achieved

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If your child **does not** have swimming lessons, can he/she swim one width of Goldenstones Swimming Pool?      YES / NO

Signed: .....(parent/carer)      Date: .....

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## YEAR 4 SWIMMING LESSONS

**Child's Name:** .....

**Class:** .....

Please tick the appropriate box (s):

I am willing to pay the full amount and enclose £20

I am able to help regularly with swimming, if required.

Signed: .....(parent/carer)

Date: .....