



HIGHFIELD PRIMARY SCHOOL

Marsh Lane, Farnworth, Bolton, BL4 0AP

Head Teacher : Mr D Glyn-Jones

Telephone : 01204 571749 / Email : office@highfield.bolton.sch.uk

25th April 2024

Swimming comes to Highfield!

Dear KS2 Parents/Carers,

Year 3 & Year 5

I am delighted to share with you that in the second half of the Summer Term we will be changing the way that we teach swimming. We will be providing a purpose-built temporary swimming pool on the school playground which will allow the children to go in small groups for their swimming lessons. We are planning that all Year 3 and Year 5 children will have swimming lessons each day for the first two weeks after half-term. The pool will be in place for 6 weeks, however we are running this scheme in conjunction with Cherry Tree Primary School and Our Lady of Lourdes Primary School, with Highfield having the first 2 weeks, Cherry Tree the next 2 weeks, and Our Lady of Lourdes the last 2 weeks. The pool will be covered and heated and will have an adjacent private changing facility. You can view the pool at [Pools to Schools \(eliteswimming.co.uk\)](https://eliteswimming.co.uk/pools-to-schools)

The swimming will be taught by a fully qualified swimming instructor and all swimming sessions will be supervised by a lifeguard – just like they would be at a public pool. The difference this year is that instead of being taught in a class of 30 the groups will be no bigger than 12 children. Each child will be initially assessed and the groups will then be arranged so that children will be able to develop their swimming skills at their own level. Children who can already swim will be provided with sessions that develop their skills whereas children who are non-swimmers will be able to gain confidence and swimming skills in a small group. Girls need to wear a one-piece swimming costume and boys need to wear swimming trunks not swimming shorts. **All children** will be required to wear a swimming cap; you can provide your own or they can be provided for the children. Goggles are optional.

Year 4 and Year 6

We are also able to offer swimming lessons, again in a small group situation, for Year 4 and Year 6 children. These will take place either between 8.00 – 8.45am or 3.15pm-4.00pm. If you would like your child to take advantage of this opportunity to learn to swim you will need to book your child on to the sessions sooner rather than later as these will be allocated on a first come first served basis. The before and after-school lessons will be available to Highfield children across the first 4 weeks of June, so parents can choose whether they would like their child to have lessons on certain days of the week over 4 weeks, or whether they would prefer to have a more intensive set of lessons, e.g. where they book a lesson each day over a couple of weeks. Lessons will be priced at £6.00 for every lesson, which is significantly cheaper than locally priced lessons. Parents will not be able to watch the lessons as there is no viewing area attached to the pool.





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In order to book your child on to the out of school swimming lessons please complete the online booking form on School Money, stating exactly which sessions you would like to purchase for your child. You will need to pay for the lessons at the time of booking. The link for the form will be sent out via text & email in the next few days. We are expecting these sessions to be very popular as they are more affordable and available than lessons at local leisure centres, so we would advise booking early.

Swimming is such an important life skill. I am sure that by changing the format of our swimming lessons we will see many more children learning to swim and that the opportunity to bring your child to affordable out of school lessons will give you peace of mind that your child has learnt life-saving water safety and swimming skills.

We look forward to this providing children with a real opportunity to learn how to swim and develop such an important life skill.

Yours sincerely,

Mr D Glyn-Jones
Headteacher

