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**Glasnevin Educate Together National School,**

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[**www.get.ie**](http://www.get.ie)

**Swimming Policy**

Aquatics is part of the PE Curriculum in the school. Every class from 1st through to 6th class, including the children in the ALC attend swimming lessons each year in Ballymun Pool. We are extremely happy with the professionalism of the instructors and have full confidence in the swimming lessons content.

The pupils in 3rd and 4th class attend for 12 weeks during the first term (September – December).

The pupils in 5th and 6th class attend for 12 weeks during the 2nd term (January – April).

The pupils in 1st and 2nd class attend for 12 weeks during the 3rd term (April – June).

The pupils in the ALC attend for swimming lessons throughout the school year (36 weeks).

PE Day is usually on a Monday, when not participating in swimming. The swimming lessons are arranged from 10am – 11am. There are always 3 lifeguards/instructors in charge of the lessons for the children.

Supervision by GETNS Staff

* Two members of school Staff accompany each class to swimming lessons.
* Children walk in pairs.
* The Staff supervise the children in the changing area at all times; children wait at designated spot, until the whole class is ready, before entering the pool and before leaving the changing area to return to school.
* A head count is carried out regularly e.g. before leaving classroom, before getting on the bus; after disembarking the bus; before leaving the changing area.
* While on the bus, if a member of Staff witnesses unsavoury behaviour, the teacher says to the other Staff member present, ‘Let’s get off at the next stop’.

Parents of 1st and 2nd classes are welcome to observe the lessons in the spectator area, if they wish. However, part of our SPHE Curriculum is self care, fostering independence and self reliance, so we anticipate, that children who are over 8 years of age, should be able to deal with dressing and undressing unaided.

If any parent of a child over 8 years of age needs to accompany the child into the dressing rooms, please speak to the Principal in confidence. There will be no access to any unauthorised personnel in the changing rooms or on the banks of the pool due to child protection Guidelines.

Reviewed and Ratified by the Board of Management September 2015.

*Parents please sign, date and return the slip below*

**GETNS Swimming Policy**

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Parent Signature Date Child and Class