

**Information required please**

Saturday 19th February 2022

Dear Parents/Carers,

We are fast approaching the time when we will resume our swimming provision at Willowburn (after the Easter holidays).

As I have mentioned in an earlier Headteacher’s Blog; unfortunately, Willowburn are unable to accommodate all of our KS 2 children swimming as they have in the past and we have been only able to secure weekly swimming lessons for 30 pupils.

 This means that we must look carefully at how we will offer swimming in KS2 during Summer Term.

I am aware that due to the COVID 19 pandemic children may have had a very different experience.

 For some children they may have not been swimming or had formal lessons since school swimming provision stopped, for others they may continue to swim frequently and at a very high level and there will also be a variation in between.

For schools, the National Curriculum guidance and expectation is that all children should be able to swim 25 metres by the end of Year 6 and this is something that we hope to achieve despite the past 2 years disruptions.

**In the first instance for Summer Term 2022 the priority will be Year 6 pupils who are unable to swim 25 metres as the younger children will have time during the next school year to have lessons.** Conversely, children who already are swimming at a high standard will not go swimming as in the past we found that this was a wasted opportunity for them.

For those children in KS 2 who are not swimming during Summer Term (this worked well previously in the past) we are intending to use the Sports Hall at Willowburn for a PE lesson.

**So that I can plan groupings and finalise which children will be swimming be could you complete the information on the following page and return it to school by Friday 4th March 2022.**

Costs of transport and lessons have risen considerably and as a school we have decided to fully subsidise this for the Summer Term but will look to possibly re-introducing a voluntary charge in September or fundraise accordingly as we have done so in the past, so this remains free for all.

Other aspects of PE will also continue to be developed. We have professional coaching for all KS 2 children in Tag Rugby after the February half term holiday and in tennis after Easter in addition to our already excellent PE and Sporting Provision and lunchtime clubs.

If you have any queries or concerns, please do not hesitate to contact me 01665574222.

I will be office-based Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday afternoons after the February half term holiday.

Best wishes,

Belinda Athey – Headteacher and PE co-ordinator.

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To Whittingham C of E Primary School

Name of child …………………………………………………………………. Year group ……………………………………………

Is currently having swimming lessons Y / N (Please circle as appropriate) .

If yes please tell us what level they are swimming at

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If no please tell us when they last had swimming lessons or if they have never had swimming lessons

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