

WEARING OF GOGGLES DURING SCHOOL SWIMMING LESSONS

Dear Parents/Carers

The Local Education Authority recommend that children should not wear goggles during school swimming lessons for the following reasons:

- Goggles are not considered necessary for school swimming
- There is a risk of injury to the eyeball as a result of incorrect fitting or adjusting with wet fingers
- The main purpose of the school swimming programme is to maximise a child's safety in water. IF a child becomes reliant on goggles, and they fall into water (for example) without their goggles, this can create added difficulty.
- Goggles often do not prevent pool water from coming into contact with the eyes, and therefore cause the child to continually adjust them, resulting in distraction and distress.
- Some goggles are only suitable for competition swimming, diving and sub-aqua work.

If you still feel strongly that your child(ren) should wear goggles, you may complete and return this form which has been provided at the school's discretion. Your child(ren) will be able to wear goggles for school swimming on the understanding that if during the course of a swimming lesson the instructor considers the use of goggles to be dangerous or distracting, then the goggles should no longer be worn. We also request that you fully observe the manufacturer's advice concerning the use and maintenance of the goggles, and the warnings on eye safety.

FOR THE PARENT/CARERS TO SIGN AND RETURN TO THE HEAD TEACHER

I, the parent or carer of _____ confirm that I wish my child(ren) to wear goggles during school swimming lessons. I have read and understood the Local Education Authority's recommendations, and have explained the advice to my child(ren).

Signed: _____ Date: _____

Please print your name: _____