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HEADTEACHER: Mrs Kirsty Shaw

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Wednesday 10<sup>th</sup> September 2025

### Key Stage 2 Swimming Lessons – Perdiswell Leisure Centre (from 25th September 2025)

Dear Parents and Carers,

We are pleased to inform you that swimming lessons for all Lower Key Stage 2 children will begin on Thursday 25th September 2025 at Perdiswell Leisure Centre. Children will swim for a total of 10 weeks and will travel by Commandery Coaches to and from the pool, accompanied by school staff.

As you may know, schools have a legal responsibility to provide swimming lessons in either Key Stage 1 or Key Stage 2, but at Himbleton, we have chosen to provide swimming opportunities at both key stages in order to give children the very best chance of achieving the expected national standard by the time they leave us in Year 6.

The expected swimming standard by the end of Key Stage 2 (Year 6) is that children are able to:

- Swim competently, confidently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres,
- Use a range of strokes effectively, and
- Perform safe self-rescue in different water-based situations.

We are aware that there are a number of children in Year 5 and Year 6 who far exceed this standard and are proficient swimmers. Therefore, from this academic year, children in Upper Key Stage 2 will no longer attend swimming lessons routinely **unless they have not yet met the required standard** which will allow us to focus resources where they are most needed. Those Year 5 and 6 children who have not yet achieved the expected standard will attend swimming lessons with Lower Key Stage 2 children this term, fully funded through the DfE PE and Sports Premium grant. We believe that this focus will allow children to continue to build water confidence, learn the basics of strokes and practise essential safety skills. In addition, this ensures that children will:

- Be taught at a level that is right for their stage of development
- Be in a group where they can feel more confident and motivated
- Have the chance to work towards achieving the expected level and become a more confident swimmer more quickly and safely.

In order to help us plan effectively, we ask that **parents and carers in both Upper Key Stage 2 and Lower Key Stage 2** complete and return the slip attached to this letter to indicate whether or not their child is currently able to meet the Key Stage 2 swimming requirements. This will enable us to group children according to their ability and to identify the children in Upper Key Stage 2 who will be swimming this term.

We will send out permission slips to the parents/carers of UK2 children once we know which children will be joining LKS2 children for swimming this term.

**Voluntary contributions – LKS2 only**

The school is able to subsidise the cost of swimming so that each session will cost £4 per pupil (£40 in total) and we are asking for a donation from parents and carers to cover this. As we recognise that this is a large amount of money, we have set up a payment on School Money in 2 instalments of £20. If you wish, both can be paid at the same time, but the second payment must be made by Monday 3<sup>rd</sup> November at the latest. Whilst there is obviously no obligation for parents and carers to make a donation, it is important to note that we may unfortunately have to make the decision to cancel swimming if insufficient donations are received. If you are experiencing financial difficulties and unable to make a donation, please make an appointment to speak with Mrs. Shaw.

Please complete the slip attached and return it to school by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September with payment. Please quote your payment reference on the reply slip below and return to school once paid.

Please also indicate whether you consent to your child wearing goggles and will be providing these for the sessions.

Thank you for your continued support.

Yours sincerely,



Mrs Shaw

Headteacher

**Swimming Ability Form for all children – Please return to school by Monday 15<sup>th</sup> September 2025**

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Class/Year group: \_\_\_\_\_

My child **can** swim at least 25 metres confidently and proficiently, using a range of strokes, and can perform safe self-rescue.

My child **cannot yet** swim at least 25 metres confidently and proficiently, using a range of strokes, and/or cannot perform safe self-rescue.

My child is currently working towards achieving the following badges/awards:

Awards gained: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

.....

**Year 3 and Year 4 pupils only:**

I consent to my child attending swimming lessons at Perdiswell Pool during the Autumn Term 2025.

Please make the donation of £40.00 or 2 instalments of £20.00 on School Money.

School Money Reference .....

I consent to my child wearing goggles for the sessions and will provide these.

Signed: ..... (Parent/Carer)

Parent/Carer Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_