



6th March 2026

Year 3 Swimming Lessons

Dear Parent/Carer,

We are delighted to let you know that Year 3 children will be taking part in a pop-up pool programme, **Swim:ED** after Easter.

As part of the national curriculum, schools must provide swimming instruction to all children by the time they finish their KS2 education (Year 6). As swimming is a statutory requirement, parents/carers cannot withdraw their children from these lessons.

Swimming lessons will take place at a pop-up swimming pool situated on our school site. The programme aims to give your child the skills and knowledge to perform safe self-rescue and acquire the lifelong skill of swimming.

Pupils will be taught by qualified swimming instructors supported by our staff, and lessons will be supervised by qualified lifeguards. This provides a perfect opportunity for your child to learn in a controlled, safe, and familiar environment.

Schedule and groups

The Pop-Up Pool Programme at South Farnborough Junior School will run for six weeks. All Year 3 children will initially take part in a **45-minute lesson twice a week for 3 weeks**, starting the week commencing **13th April 2026**. Following this initial period, we will contact you directly if we feel your child would benefit from an extension of lessons during the final three weeks of the programme to further develop their skills.

Instructors are currently grouping children by ability using the information provided on your new starter registration form. As soon as these groups are finalised, we will notify you which days your child will be swimming. You will receive this information before the end of the current term.

National Curriculum Expectations

Every child should leave primary school able to:

- demonstrate safe self-rescue and evidence of this in different water-based situations.
- use a range of strokes effectively, for example, front crawl and backstroke.
- swim confidently, competently and proficiently over a distance of at least 25 metres

What is a Pop-up Pool?

A pop-up pool is a fun and exciting addition to our school's physical education program. With dimensions of approximately **10m x 5m** and a depth of **1.2m**, this above-ground structure provides a high-quality swimming experience.

The pool meets all industry standards and safety requirements. It is equipped with a filter and pool heater to maintain a comfortable water temperature and is housed under a **9x15m marquee**.



What can I do to prepare my child for school swimming lessons?

- Go swimming as a family before they start their lessons.
- Visit the Swim England parent hub at www.swimming.org/learntoswim
- Find your local pool at www.swimming.org/poolfinder
- Talk positively about going swimming and the importance of learning to swim.
- Ensure they are able to dress and undress themselves and dry themselves independently including getting into and out of their swimwear.
- Support with practicing blowing bubbles, splashing water over their face and submerging their face.

What to wear for swimming?

It is **not** necessary for your child to come to school in their swimming kit. The pool has individual changing pods so each child can change in private.

- **Girls:** one-piece swimming costume.
- **Boys:** swimming trunks or shorts (must be above the knee).
- **Optional:** Children may choose to wear rash vests and or leggings for modesty if they wish.
- **Goggles:** May be worn but remain the responsibility of the wearer. Spare goggles are available if needed.
- **Hair:** Long hair must be tied back and a swimming hat worn. Spare hats are available. **Please do not use hair products (gel/spray)** on swimming days, as they affect water quality.
- **Jewellery:** Not permitted (except for an SOS talisman). Please remove these at home. If worn to school, children will be asked to remove them for safekeeping during the lesson.
- **Towel:** Please ensure your child also brings a towel to every session!

Costs and Contributions

As swimming is part of the national curriculum, schools do not charge for the lessons themselves. However, legislation allows us to ask for a voluntary contribution from parents/carers to support the significant costs of bringing this facility to the school site.

While we understand some families may be unable to contribute, we would be extremely grateful for any amount you can provide. We believe this is an amazing opportunity for children to learn or improve their swimming right here at school.

You can make a contribution via Arbor under the "Trips" section. The suggested contribution is set at £25, but you may choose to pay more or less than this amount.

If you have any questions, please see the attached FAQ or contact the school office.

Kind regards,

Pop Up Swimming Pool - Parent's Frequently Asked Questions

Pop-Up Pools in your School can be a completely new concept for you and your children, or it may be that your children have had a similar experience before but delivered by a different organisation. With this in mind, we have created a Frequently Asked Questions document for you, to hopefully answer some initial overview questions you may have.



What is a Pop-up Pool?

A pop-up pool is a temporary pool structure (approximately 10 metres by 5 metres with a depth of 1.2 metres) which can be located on a school site for a short period of time to provide high quality, safe swimming provision for small groups. Each pool meets industry standards (HSG179 requirements) safety requirements as per any other public swimming pool or swimming facility. The image on the right provides an example of how the pool will look when on school site.

Who will be teaching the swimming lessons?

ActiveMe 360 CIC provide fully qualified swimming teachers who will deliver all the lessons, supported by lifeguards.

What does my child need to bring with them and what is provided?

All information regarding kit and what is provided is outlined in the Parent letter, which will be shared with you in advance of the swimming provision taking place at your child's school.

How often will my child be swimming?

They will be swimming every day for up to 45 minutes a day.

How long will my child be swimming for?

Each child will go through a 3-week programme. They may have more opportunity for swimming with additional booster and water safety focused weeks, which will be communicated to you by the school at the end of your child's 3-week block.

Where will my child be getting changed?

All children will be getting changed inside in a designated changing space, provided by and overseen by school staff.

Will the pool be open on the playground?

The pool is enclosed in an industrial marquee and not in view of anyone not taking part in the swimming session.

Won't the children get cold?

As the pool is within the marquee and the water is heated to a constant temperature, the children will be in a warm environment both in the water and within the marquee.

How big is the pool?

The pool is 5m by 10m and is 1.2m deep.

If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us and we will be happy to help.

Yours sincerely,

ActiveMe 360.