

3rd September 2026

Year 4 School Swimming: Autumn Term

Dear Parents and Carers,

It is with great pleasure that we can inform you that school swimming lessons will start again on Friday 11th September. This letter contains all of the information you need.

What does my child need?

Your child should bring to school in a bag a towel, goggles if your child regularly uses them (these should be adjusted to fit before school) and swimwear. Children do not need to bring shampoo for hair washing as there is not time at the end of the lesson to wash hair. Long hair needs to be tied back and all jewellery; earrings and watches removed. If any child wishes to keep their hair dry, please send them with a swimming hat. All items must be named clearly. As with every day of school, your child must have a coat with them.

My child already has swimming lessons

Many children will already be able to swim, many will be unable to swim and there will be plenty in the middle! The swimming instructors at the Leisure Centre will assess the children's swimming ability in the first few sessions and group them accordingly so that they can make the best progress through the National Curriculum swimming scheme. The scheme provides plenty of support for non-swimmers and plenty of challenge for able swimmers so your child's ability will be catered for.

What time do the lessons take place?

Swimming lessons take place within school hours and we will travel by coach. The first session is from 1.00pm – 2.00pm and the second session is from 2.00pm – 3.00pm. This means that the group which goes second should be back at school by 3.20pm (sometimes there is a slight delay due to traffic) and can be picked up from the bus at the field side of school. If your child's class is on the "second swim", and you wish to collect them directly from the leisure centre, please inform your child's teacher to arrange this. We appreciate that this can make life easier for some families. There are ten weeks of lessons and Miss Crowley's class will go on the first swim for the first five sessions. Mrs Scarbro's class will go on the second swim for the first five sessions and then the classes will swap over. See the table below for exact dates.

Behaviour expectations and manners

Children will be off school site and will meet with members of the public and leisure centre staff. We expect them to be dressed in full school uniform and to comply with all reasonable requests first time. Failure to comply with such a request may mean that they remain in school the following session to "earn" the trust back that we place in them.

Please do not hesitate to ask if there is anything you'd like to discuss further. We understand that while many of the children will be excited, we know that many of them will be anxious. Naturally, we will spend time this week in school helping the children to manage any anxieties so that they can enjoy the sessions and achieve their goals.

Our Mission: Ghyllside Primary School – Growing Hearts and Minds
Our Values: Inspiring Healthy Inclusive Nurturing Experiences

Cost

Swimming for all children is a life skill that we at Ghyllside feel is exceptionally important. However, you will be aware that schools are under increasing financial pressure, and Ghyllside is not exempt from this. As a result, we will this year be asking for a £1.00 contribution towards the coach each week. This can be paid weekly or the whole £10 at once and can be paid by cash or online via Eduspot/School Money.

Many thanks for your kind support,

The Year 4 Team

Year 4 Swimming Timetable

Date	1st Swim 1.00 – 2.00pm	2nd Swim 2.00 – 3.00pm Collect from Ghyllside (by car park) at 3.20pm
Friday 11 th Sept	Miss Crowley's class	Mrs Scarbro's class
Friday 18 th Sept	Miss Crowley's class	Mrs Scarbro's class
Friday 25 th Sept	Miss Crowley's class	Mrs Scarbro's class
Friday 2 nd October	Miss Crowley's class	Mrs Scarbro's class
Friday 9 th October	Miss Crowley's class	Mrs Scarbro's class
Friday 16 th October	Mrs Scarbro's class	Miss Crowley's class
Friday 23 rd October	Mrs Scarbro's class	Miss Crowley's class
HALF TERM		
Friday 6 th Nov	Mrs Scarbro's class	Miss Crowley's class
Friday 13 th Nov	Mrs Scarbro's class	Miss Crowley's class
Friday 20 th Nov	Mrs Scarbro's class	Miss Crowley's class

Our Mission: Ghyllside Primary School – Growing Hearts and Minds
Our Values: Inspiring Healthy Inclusive Nurturing Experiences