



POLICY ON EXEMPTION FROM SWIMMING LESSONS – PHYSICAL EDUCATION IN THE PRIMARY CYCLE

1. Purpose:

This policy outlines the conditions under which pupils may be exempted from swimming lessons, which are a compulsory component of the Physical Education curriculum and formally assessed as part of pupils' academic evaluation. Swimming is considered an essential activity for physical development, safety, and wellbeing.

2. General Principles:

- Participation in swimming lessons is expected of all pupils.
- Exemptions cannot be used for convenience or reluctance to participate.
- The school is committed to providing a safe and supportive environment for all students during swimming sessions.

3. Exemption Guidelines:

Exemptions from swimming lessons are granted only in cases of verified temporary medical conditions. A distinction is made between:

a) Pupils requiring closer supervision and support:

- Pupils with a cast or a certified medical condition indicating temporary fragility (e.g., an ear infection requiring medication) fall into this category.
- These pupils will remain at school during swimming lessons to ensure their safety and wellbeing.

b) Pupils with minor ailments or mild discomfort without a medical certificate:

- Pupils who are experiencing minor colds or mild discomfort may still attend the swimming facility under their class teacher supervision but will not enter the water.
- These pupils participate in the lesson environment without requiring alternative arrangements in the school premises.

4. Alternative Arrangements

For pupils with a certified medical condition (as described in point a) above):

- The pupil will engage in supervised study or reading time in the library during swimming lessons.
- To minimize disruption to other classes scheduled in the library, a maximum of three pupils may be accommodated at any one time.

5. Monitoring and Review

The N/P Management will continue to monitor exemptions closely to ensure that health-related absences from swimming lessons remain minimal.

6. Responsibility

It is the responsibility of parents/guardians to provide accurate and timely medical documentation to support requests for temporary exemption. The school reserves the right to review and approve all exemption requests in accordance with this policy.

7. Communication

This policy will be communicated to all parents on the 7th January of the current academic year and at the beginning of the forthcoming school years and reinforced in regular correspondence regarding Physical Education activities.

Varese 7th January 2025

Antonella Selvaggio

N/P Deputy Director