



Dear Parents \ Carers,

Firstly we would like to welcome all the pupils back to swimming at Hamstel!

Whilst your child is at Hamstel Infant or Hamstel Junior School, they will follow the **Swim England** School Swimming and Water Safety Charter from levels 1 to 6.

A big part of early swimming lessons involves learning how to enjoy the water safely. This means understanding what to do if you get into trouble and how to call for help. This is also known as 'safe self-rescue'.

Further information about the awards can be found on the swimming section on the [Infant School Website](#) or on the Swim England website - <https://www.swimming.org/assets/charter-resources-schools/award-outcomes.pdf>.

We all believe that swimming is an essential skill for life and has many mental, physical and social benefits, especially as we are lucky to live so close to open water.

The aim will be for your child to complete one level each year at school. They will also work towards their distance badges: 5 metres, 10 metres, 15 metres, 20 metres and 25 metres.

We would like to remind you that children need a swimming hat, one piece swimming costume \ tight fitting trunks and a towel in a swimming bag on the day their class swims. Please clearly label can every item of clothing and kit with your child's name. Can you please make sure that your child has a brightly coloured hat, but not red as these are for children with medical conditions. Could you also please write your child's name clearly on the outside of their hat with a permanent marker so it does not fade.

In the present climate we will not be lending any items of kit, even if this is just a hat. Unfortunately this does mean that if your child does not have the full kit they will not be able to participate in the lesson.

School swimming lessons will be conducted in the following way this term:

The Year 2 will resume lessons from the week commencing **15th March 2021**. Each class will be split into 2 groups. Please see the table below to find out which day your child will be swimming. There will be no charge for swimming.

Monday	Badger
Tuesday	Hedgehog
Wednesday	Otter
Thursday	Fox
Friday	Squirrel

As part of our commitment to keeping our community safe whilst pool side, the changing rooms, equipment and reception area will all be cleaned between each class bubble, as per Swim England and government guidelines. We will continue to follow all updated guidelines and will keep you informed of any changes. Your child's safety is of the utmost importance to us.

Please ensure that your child takes home their kit each week and that it is washed and dried before the next lesson.

Please contact us at the school if you have any questions.

Thank you

Hamstel School Swim Staff