

SWIMMING POOL POLICY

Goal

To ensure that Health and Safety is paramount at all times and that students learn to swim as this is an essential life skill.

Introduction

The Multinational School Riyadh has always regarded swimming as an essential skill for all our students. We therefore need to ensure that both staff and students use our pool in a safe manner. Swimming is compulsory until the end of Year Eight (age 13/14). Above this it is either a curriculum or club choice.

Aims

- We aim to give all students equal opportunities to learn to swim
- To provide students with the opportunity to excel at swimming and to compete competitively
- To at all times maintain a safe environment; physically, emotionally and culturally.

Staff Procedures

Supervision

At all times that students are in the water a qualified lifeguard is on duty (see Annex A). Swim instructors may only teach in accordance their certified skill level (Annex B).

In addition staff will be in the water according to the ratios below:

- 1:12 teacher: students in training pool
- 1:7 in the large pool, floatation devices used for less capable swimmer

Risk assessment

Before any swimming activity the teacher will make a risk assessment as below:

- Assess if tiles are wet and slippery
- Check for broken/sharp edges around pool
- Check chlorine and acid concentrations
- Check for foreign bodies in the water
- No electrical cables or appliances allowed in the area
- Availability of safety equipment and first aid kit

Emergency action plan

Fire evacuation is via the reception area or rear maintenance exit, whichever is free of smoke and fire to the fire assembly areas. Where registration will be taken

In the event of lockdown, all children are assembled in the changing rooms with doors locked.

First aid

First Aid kit available in the pool area. Qualified First Responders (Annex C) must be present. The school has two qualified nurses available.

Reporting accidents and incidents

Any major or minor incidents are recorded in a book stored in the pool, and reported to the Head of P.E. department. The school nurse is also informed and a record made on Daybook. The incident or accident is then reviewed by management and procedures or improvements are put in place

Pool access for disabled people

Wheelchair access and changing facilities are available in the pool reception area.

Safety information and signs

Swimmers are briefed on risks at the start of each lesson.

- Adequate signage is presented in the pool area, warning of the dangers:
- No running
- No pushing
- No diving into the training pool
- No eating or drinking in the pool area

Prevention of unauthorised access

When the pool is vacant, all access doors are kept locked.

Changing Rooms

- Female staff will actively supervise the girls changing rooms and male staff the boys
- Swimming costumes must conform to appropriate levels of decency as determined by the HoD

Safety equipment in pool area

The HoD performs a monthly check of safety equipment whilst the Life Guards perform a daily check before the start of any lessons.

- cameras covering all angles of the pool area.
- 4 life guard pool buoys hung around the pool at accessible heights
- Telephone number for school nurse and ambulance displayed next to phone
- Spinal board mounted on the wall between the training and large pool
- Individual floatation devices for individual swimmers:
- Back float for primary age swimmers
- Waist float for secondary age swimmers
- Kick boards
- Pool noodles
- 2 x ladders on main pool and 1 in deeper side of training pool

When not in use swimming aides are kept securely to avoid them becoming a trip hazard.

Plant maintenance

The School property team is responsible for the plant maintenance and checks

- Cleanliness of the area
- Water to meet safety standards as per the testing kits
- Heating ventilation and A/C
- Lighting
- Filters, heaters and pumps
- All swimming chemicals are locked away when students are present

MNS Sharks

The after school club, the MNS Sharks, must conform to the school Policy and Procedures.

Responsibility for the Policy and Procedures

The Principals delegate the responsibility for this Policy to the Head of Physical Education.

Annexes:

- A. Qualified Lifeguards
- B. Swimming Instructor Qualifications
- C. First Responder Staff

ANNEX A: Lifeguards as at September 2018

- 1. Ahmed Fikry- Copy of Certificate attached
- 2. Lois Wolkers- Copy of Certificate attached.

ANNEX B: Swimming Instructor Qualifications as at September 2018

- 1. Ahmed Fikry- Copy of Certificate attached
- 2. Lois Wolkers- Copy of Certificate attached

ANNEX C: First Responder Staff as at September 2018

- 1. Ahmed Fikry- Copy of Certificate attached
- 2. Lois Wolkers- Copy of Certificate attached