



Somerset Bridge Primary School
Aspire - Brave - Care - Collaborate

Somerset Bridge Primary School
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Headteacher: Mr Mark Braund

Monday 7th September 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Swimming at Somerset Bridge for the Academic Year 2026/2027

As we start a new academic year, we are looking forward to continuing with our strong and successful Sport and Physical Activity curriculum. Swimming is part of the National Curriculum for PE, with the aim of all children being able to swim 25m by the end of Key Stage 2. Many schools only offer swimming to their Year 6 pupils but at Somerset Bridge, we offer all of our pupils in Key Stage 2 the opportunity to take part in and gain this important life skill that adds extra enjoyment and variety to our PE curriculum. In previous years, each year group has travelled to the swimming pool in Burnham-on-Sea for 30-minute sessions over the course of a 9-week block. This has meant that the children are out of school for a whole morning each week and we have been searching for a better arrangement for our children.

For the 2026/2027 academic year we will be changing the way we offer swimming as part of our curriculum.

- Week 1, 2, 3 and 4, Mrs Burdett's class will take part in 1-hour swim sessions.
- Week 5, Mrs Burdett's class and Mrs Winchester and Mrs Stone's class will go swimming together. Mrs Burdett's class will have their final assessment whilst Mrs Winchester and Mrs Stone's class will have their initial assessment.
- Week 6, 7, 8 and 9, Mrs Winchester and Mrs Stone's class will take part in 1-hour swim sessions.

With this new timetable in place, children will have the same amount of time swimming as in previous years, but their sessions will be longer, more efficient and allow for more concentrated teaching. Children will also lose less curriculum time.

We have arranged for **Mrs Burdett's class** to swim from **Thursday 10th September to Thursday 8th October** and **Mrs Winchester and Mrs Stone's class** to swim from **Thursday 8th October to Thursday 12th November**. Transport will be by coach and this will be provided by Berry's Coaches.

We will be going to Burnham-on-Sea Swim and Sports Academy. Although the cost of swimming will be covered, we ask for a contribution for the coach transport. The cost will be **£21.67** for the full 5 weeks, please make your payment by **Thursday 12th November**. Please make your contribution through the MCAS (MyChildAtSchool) app. If you have not signed up to MCAS, please request a link from the School Office.

Children will need to bring a suitable swimming costume (one-piece costume only) towel and goggles to school on swimming days and children with long hair will need a hair tie. Boys' costumes

should not extend below the knees and should ideally be swimming trunks. If your child currently has swimming sessions outside of school and uses a swim hat they are also welcome to bring and wear it in their swimming session.

Please remember earrings are required to be removed during PE and sporting activities. Further guidance can be found on the School website in the uniform policy.

The following items should **NOT** be taken to the swimming pool: -

- Shampoo
- Aerosol deodorant (roll-on deodorant is allowed)
- Money
- Food and drink
- Toys
- Hair gel
- Talcum powder

We hope that you are happy with these arrangements, but if you have any queries please contact the School Office.

Yours faithfully,

Three handwritten signatures in blue ink are displayed side-by-side. The first signature is 'J Burdett', the second is 'Mrs Winchester', and the third is 'Mrs Stone'.

Mrs Burdett, Mrs Winchester and Mrs Stone
Year 5 Teachers