



St. Peter & St. Paul's Church of England Primary School

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Dear parents / carers

Children in year 5/6 will soon be starting their weekly swimming lesson at Accrington Academy and as this is a statutory part of the national curriculum is not an optional activity.

Lessons will start on **Thursday 24th April** and children will be **leaving school 8.50am promptly**. Children will be split into groups according to their swimming ability so that they can be taught appropriate swimming skills. **Please note (and explain to your child) regardless of swimming ability, the first lesson is usually an updated assessment by Academy staff. Occasionally less confident children are required to wear swimming rings/use a noodle until the staff are confident that they can swim unaided as part of the first assessment.**

Clothing Requirements

Girls	Boys
A one-piece swimming costume (no bikinis) Towel Swimming hat (available to buy from Accrington academy)	Fitted trunks (children will not be able to go in pool in shorts) Towel Swimming hat (available to buy from Accrington academy)
Jewellery is not to be worn – please leave earrings and watches at home as academy staff will not let them in the pool wearing anything. Goggles can be sent in if required. If your child has a verruca, they can still swim providing they wear a plastic sock available from chemists/sports shops. Please label all items and send in a waterproof bag clearly labelled with your child's name.	

As the children move through KS2 we have considered how they can get changed appropriately however we do appreciate children may still need more help in lower key stage 2. At Accrington Academy there are two changing rooms enabling the boys and girls to change separately. The way the rooms are set up will enable the classes to stay together in their own part of the changing room and for the staff member to position themselves in an area just away from the immediate changing area but still within the room. This means staff can hear the children to monitor behaviour and be on hand if they need help changing, but still ensuring the children have their privacy. Children will be reminded about changing sensibly and respecting each other's privacy as best they can in a communal area. If at any time the staff member needs to go into the changing area (and particularly when female staff are supervising the boys' changing rooms) they will always inform the children before entering so that they are appropriately dressed when they go in. The members of staff accompanying the children are Mr Ferguson and Mrs Whittle/Mrs Montgomery.

