



St Martin and St Mary Church of England Primary School

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March 2026

Dear Parent/Carer,

Reception Swimming

We are so fortunate to have a swimming pool in our school grounds. Throughout the summer term, children benefit from a weekly swimming lesson. By the time our children are in Year 6, they are already competent swimmers and can easily swim a distance greater than 25 metres as required by the National Curriculum. In most schools, children are only taught to swim for a maximum of 20 sessions in their entire school career and this would often take place in the local swimming pool at the end of a coach journey rather than after a short walk.

This year, we are fortunate that our Reception children will receive a swimming lesson each week starting the week beginning 13th April 2026. This will amount to six lessons.

As you will understand, the cost of running and maintaining the school pool has increased significantly. The school receives no additional funding to support swimming for children, other than those in two year groups (as in other schools). All of the additional lessons our children receive are a bonus.

For this year, we are asking for a payment of **£24.00** (£4 per lesson) for each pupil to cover the lessons for the term. I am sure you would agree this provides excellent value for money. Please can this be paid via SCOPAY [Login \(scopay.com\)](https://scopay.com) or as cash/cheque to the school office, in a labelled envelope with your child's name, class and amount enclosed.

Thank you to all those families who manage to contribute each year to the cost of these lessons. Each year, we do have some families who struggle to pay. Please do contact school in confidence if you need financial assistance or help to fund this. As many of you know, the future of our pool is always in the balance, so prompt payment is welcomed to secure its ongoing use for all children in school and our local community.

More information about swimming for the term ahead...

SWIMMING RULES

- All children need suitable swimwear in a separate bag; girls must have a full swimming costume and boys must have suitable swimming shorts not below the knees (all clearly labelled). A towel, swim hat in their house colour, brush or comb, jumper, beach shoes or school pumps.
- On sunny days, please ensure your child is wearing **waterproof** sun cream. Please apply this before school.

Friendship Love Forgiveness Trust Honesty Faith

- No jewellery. Earrings can cause significant damage to children whilst taking part in sport. Plasters do not provide adequate protection therefore please remove earrings before coming to school or they will be asked to take them out before entering the pool.
- Long hair should be tied back and swimming caps (in their house colour) must be worn by all pupils. Please practice putting the swimming cap on with your child at home. These are available to buy from the school office for £3.00.
- There is no time for washing of hair following swimming, so shampoo and talc are not necessary.
- At St Martin & St Mary C of E Primary School we encourage our pupils to become independent in their organisation, therefore **if they forget kit we are unable to ring home and they will be given a spare kit to wear if available.**

Reception children will swim on **Tuesday mornings** on the following dates:

- Tuesday 14th April 2026
- Tuesday 21st April 2026
- Tuesday 28th April 2026
- Tuesday 5th May 2026
- Tuesday 12th May 2026
- Tuesday 19th May 2026

Emma Dobson will be the swimming teacher, supported by a qualified lifeguard.

Please [click here](#) to provide information about your child's swimming ability so that Emma can plan the lessons. If you are available to help during these sessions, please do let us know as we cannot run them without help. Thank you. **Please can we ask all parents/carers to complete the online form via the link by Friday 20th March 2026.**

Any queries or concerns regarding the above please do not hesitate to contact school.

Thanks for your support.

Yours sincerely,



Louise Swindlehurst
Headteacher

'Life in all its fullness' John 10.10