



Aylesbury High School, Walton Road, Aylesbury, Bucks. HP21 7SX
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14th July 2020

Dear Head Teacher,

We appreciate that you will have many challenges and amendments to your curriculum due to Covid-19. Many of your pupils may have missed their School Swimming over the last two terms. We urge you to ensure that these pupils are still given the opportunity to swim and, for those who have swum but do not currently meet the minimum requirements for School Swimming, are given the opportunity to do so through Top Up Swimming Programmes. As you will know, being able to swim, perform self-rescue skills and understand how to keep yourself safe in and around water are critical life skills. The majority of pupils in Bucks are not lucky enough to undertake curriculum Swimming at their senior school and many do not have opportunities to swim outside of school or with their families. Therefore, missing their School Swimming Programme may result in reaching adulthood without being able to swim.

We are delighted that the Primary PE and Sport Premium Funding is to continue this year - as you may know, use of this funding for Top Up Programmes has been nationally recognised as good practice. We already have offers from a couple of our Swim Focus Group Partners/Leisure Providers to offer Top Up Programmes to schools (some of these may be at no cost with the exception of transport). Please let us know if you are interested in this.

As I am sure you will know, open air pools have been allowed to reopen since 11 July, with indoor pools allowed to begin reopening from Saturday 25 July. We know that many centres around Bucks are busy developing their Risk Assessments and video tours of facilities to show how the return to the pool may look. As mentioned in previous correspondence, we have been working on School Swimming Covid-19 Risk Assessments to support you with planning your School Swimming. These documents can be found on our website - <http://www.avtp.co.uk/policy-documents/>. If you have any further questions, please do not hesitate to contact us via swimming@ahs.bucks.sch.uk.

Yours faithfully,

Mandy Carey
Buckinghamshire School Swimming Adviser
(BSSP in partnership with Buckinghamshire Council)

