



Dobcroft Junior School

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Water Safety

Dear Parents and Carers

Further to the communication last week from South Yorkshire police regarding the importance of water safety we wanted to share with you the further work we are doing in school regarding the curriculum in this area.

Water safety is covered annually in assemblies, as well as in the year 4 curriculum when pupils attend swimming lessons. Over the next two weeks all pupils will have their annual water safety assembly delivered by Mrs Sexton. In addition to this all class teachers will be covering the water safety code during class time.

The key messages pupils will hear are:

Understanding the hazards, emphasising that open water (reservoirs, lakes and rivers) differ significantly from swimming pools.

Dangers such as cold-water shock, unseen currents, and sudden changes in depth are present even on warm days.

Understanding rip tides and strong, hidden water currents can cause risk.

The importance of using supervised areas. For example, encourage the use of managed, lifeguarded swimming facilities where professional water safety measures are in place as well as patrolled beaches and following the lifeguard flags.

Reactive measures:

Never jumping in to help

Calling 999

The “Float to Live” position

In addition to the learning in school, we would like to remind parents and carers of the importance of active supervision i.e. always maintaining constant, active supervision of children, even if they are confident swimmers.

Sadly, there have been a number of water-related fatalities across the country during the recent heatwave, highlighting the importance of staying safe around water. Please take a moment to discuss water safety and these key points as a family.

Yours Sincerely,

Dobcroft Junior School