



£150 million funding for PE and School Sport

Essential advice from the ASA for everyone involved in School Swimming

The ASA has welcomed, as we are sure you have, the announcement by the Prime Minister that additional funding of £150 million per year has been committed to PE and school sport at primary level.

This ring fenced budget will give you the opportunity to review your current school swimming programme, to ensure that every single child learns this essential life skill.

You will be aware that there is a statutory requirement that every Key Stage 2 child should be able to swim at least 25 metres unaided by the time they leave primary school. If your school is currently not meeting this requirement we urge you to make swimming and water safety an absolute priority for use of the funding.

We would like to provide advice and recommendations to you on the use of the funding to ensure school swimming is prioritised.

- If your pupils are not being offered swimming as part of the PE curriculum then these funds should be utilised to address this immediately.
- Investigate the achievement levels of pupils during school swimming and look at supporting those children who are not reaching the minimum standards. Booster lessons are an ideal solution, often referred to as 'Top Ups'.
- As well as normal learn to swim lessons, provide additional lessons around general safety in and around water. This essential component is sometimes overlooked in the delivery of school swimming but it is a statutory part of the national curriculum. Increasing knowledge and practice of water safety skills will save lives.
- Whether or not you provide school swimming currently, you should contact your learn to swim provider to explore additional opportunities.

Check www.swimming.org/poolfinder to locate your nearest providers.

- Make sure you are getting the best out of your number one resource – your teaching staff. Give them the training they need to give your pupils the best possible school swimming experience. We recommend that anyone involved in the delivery of primary school swimming should take the specialised National Curriculum Training Programme qualification and other professional learning opportunities. Visit swimming.org/asa/teaching-and-coaching/nctp, call 01509 640 463 or email nctp@swimming.org.
- Make use of all the available resources that can support your school swimming delivery. We provide some fantastic materials that can really help make the lessons fun and give support to reaching attainment goals, such as a Games Pack and the range of awards available through the Kellogg's ASA Award Scheme, visit www.awardscentre.org.

For more information or questions on any of these areas please visit our website at www.swimming.org/schoolswimming or email schoolswimming@swimming.org.

We urge you to look carefully at your school swimming provision to address the decline in the number of children learning to swim.

