



## Drowning Prevention and Water Safety with School Swimming

Across the UK there has been a spike in fatal drowning incidents during summer months, the impact of Covid-19 raises concerns as there is reduced beach lifeguarding and supervised venues and no swimming pools open for use at this time for our lessons.

Which means we cannot teach the necessary life skills to children on the poolside, with children and families enjoying outdoor spaces and activities even more it is important that the message of water safety reach out to our children and community.

A survey conducted by the RLSS (Royal Life Saving Society) in 2019 produced some astounding results in a poll of a sample 1000 adults that include:

- 58.8% of those surveyed who had children under the age of 11 said they would not be confident their child would know what to do, if they fell into open water
- 56.4% of those surveyed who had children between the ages of 12-16 said they would not be confident their child would know what to do, if they fell into open water
- 13% of those surveyed said they knew someone who had died as a result of drowning, and 21% said they knew someone who had nearly drowned
- 81% believed water safety skills should be part of the national curriculum

School Swimming provides an opportunity for all children to gain water confidence and water safety education with a series of different activities. This year as the pools are closed will we are supporting drowning prevention week slightly different providing a series of resources from our water safety partners for children and families to enjoy and complete, adding towards completing the National Curriculum life skills knowledge.

Please share the links below to all pupils to access, and we look forward to seeing come completed activity packs:

<https://www.swimming.org/swimengland/free-home-school-activities/>

<https://rnli.org/youth-education/education-resources/activity-sheets-and-posters>

<https://www.sta.co.uk/wp-content/uploads/2018/06/Water-Safety-Advice-Booklet.pdf>

During drowning prevention week, we are taking to social media with our colleagues from Sport and Leisure and Active Notts to provide a series of messages regarding staying safe around water, please check our updates by following the link below:

<https://www.activenottingham.com/water-wise/>

We hope you will support DPW by getting involved and sharing the messages, helping us educate the community with essential life skills and here is a simple reminder:



