

Swimming

At Hanwell Fields we place great emphasis on getting children to be able to swim well enough to get themselves out of danger if they are in water. The target in the National Curriculum is for all children to swim 25m by the end of year 6. The 2016/17 cohort of year 6 had a 57% success rate in swimming 25 metres. To years ago we changed our swimming policy so now every year group gets to go swimming for a term each year from year 1 to year 6. This ensures that every child has experience of getting in the pool early so they can experience a pool in a safe and enjoyable way from a young age. Some children are lucky enough to have swimming lessons or to swim for a club but many have no exposure to swimming over and above swimming at school. To take the wide range of abilities into account, children are streamed so that they have the opportunity to progress in each lesson whether that is in terms of confidence in the water or more technical work on their strokes.

We travel to Banbury Spice Ball Leisure Centre Pool by school minibus with 3 level 1 qualified swimming teachers. Spice Ball supply 2 qualified level 2 teachers and life guards so we are in the correct ratios for the OCC swimming guidelines. All children wear swim hats but goggles are only allowed with a parent's letter. Swimming certificates are awarded as the children increase their confidence and ability and these are awarded in Friday Celebration assemblies.

Finally there is also the annual swimming gala run by the NOSSP (North Oxfordshire School Sport Partnership) for primary schools in Banbury. This year (2017/18) the girls team came 3rd and the boys team 2nd so they qualified for the North Oxfordshire Finals. They were runners up here as well and have qualified for the County Finals.

Image of the boys and girls swimming teams.

