



## Senior School Swimming Kit Policy

April 2025

### 1. Kit Items

1.1 All students are expected to attend swimming lessons with correct kit; this ensures their own and others safety, as well as enabling swimmers to participate to their full potential. Students can wear their own swimming costume or trunks, as long as they adhere to the following safety guidelines:

- Swimming trunks (can be Speedos, Jammers or looser shorts which finish above the knee).
- One-piece Swimsuit (can be styles such as razor, atom or t-back, hydrasuits, legsuits to the knee).

1.2 In addition, students will also require to source their own:

- Swim hat (preferably silicone): this is essential for taking part in the water
- Towel (essential, but we do have some laundered spares – in extremis!)
- Goggles (optional, but useful for some children<sup>1</sup> and in some underwater activities and if preferred to use in a racing setting)
- Rash vest/T-shirt and/or shorts - optional items to wear in addition to their costumes/trunks. Teachers will advise, on an individual basis, if any items are felt to be unsafe for this purpose<sup>2</sup>.

### 2. Naming and Storing Swimming kit during the day

All items of Swim kit and bags should be named, to help reunite any items found. Students can carry their Swim kit around with them during the school day or leave it in their locked lockers.

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<sup>1</sup> [www.sta.co.uk/policies/use-of-swimming-goggles-guidelines-for-parents-and-carers/](http://www.sta.co.uk/policies/use-of-swimming-goggles-guidelines-for-parents-and-carers/). STA (Swimming Teachers Association). Date accessed 25.4.25

<sup>2</sup> The Association for Physical Education, Safe Practice: in Physical Education, School Sport and Physical Activity. (AfPE & UK Coaching, 2024, p.140)



### **3. Swim Kit during Galas**

Students should wear their swim kit, or after checking with their Swimming Teacher, a club suit may be allowed; a St Chris Swim Hat and team shirt will be loaned to students for the gala and must be returned as soon as possible afterwards.

### **4. Missing some/all kit for a lesson**

- 4.1 Students without kit should produce a note/email from home, explaining the reason and detailing if it will be for more than a one-off occasion. Staff will chase correspondence if necessary.
- 4.2 Reasons for missing kit will be addressed on an individual basis.
- 4.3 Spare kit, if available and permitted, will be loaned to students by the Pool Staff.
- 4.4 If students forget their kit twice, they will be expected to speak with their teacher at another time to help resolve the issue.
- 4.5 Situations where students persistently arrive without kit, will be addressed in line with the School's behavioural policy.

### **5 Permanently lost or unavailable Kit**

- 5.1 Staff will give students until their next lesson to find or replace any lost kit items.
- 5.2 The Pool Team is happy to check if there are any items in Lost Property that can replace those missing; or students can source their own replacements, in line with the costume guidance.

### **6 Jewellery, Sensory aids, Long Hair and Nails**

- 6.1 Most body jewellery, religious artefacts and fitness watches must be removed.<sup>3</sup> Medical bracelets, due to modern styles, are usually acceptable to wear but Pool Staff will not allow students to participate where piercings may be at risk of puncturing the skin or being ripped out or where items may get caught in the pool, trapping students under the water. Students may need to adopt other roles (eg. coach/official) if they cannot remove items but where it is unsafe to participate.
- 6.2 The decision as to whether it is safe or possible to wear glasses or hearing aids will be determined by the nature of the activity and by the teacher in charge.
- 6.3 Any jewellery, religious artefacts or aids worn in the water are done so at owner's risk.

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<sup>3</sup> The AfPE, Safe Practice: in PE, School Sport and Physical Activity. (AfPE & UK Coaching, 2024, p.137)



- 6.4 "Long hair should always be tied back ... to prevent entanglement in apparatus" (eg. lane ropes) and to prevent vision being impaired" (AfPE, 2024, p.138)<sup>4</sup>. Students should bring in their own hairbands/hats or the Pool Team may be able to issue them with an alternative but, if neither are available, Students will need to take part in another sporting role (coach/official)
- 6.5 "Nails need to be sufficiently short to prevent injury to self and others"<sup>5</sup>

## 7. Questions

For any remaining questions regarding kit, please contact your current swim teacher, the Pool Manager or the Head of Swimming.

<b>Responsible and Accountable Persons</b>	<b>Name</b>	<b>Position</b>
Responsible	Jenny White	Head of Swimming
Accountable	Rich Jones	Head
Date Policy Approved	April 2025	
Review Period	Three years	
Review Date	April 2028	

<b>Version History</b>	<b>Amendment Date</b>	<b>Amended by Whom</b>	<b>Previous Version Stored Where (If Applicable)</b>
Previous version	March 2021	Jenny White	Policy Archive Folder

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<sup>4</sup>The AfPE, Safe Practice: in PE, School Sport and Physical Activity. (AfPE & UK Coaching, 2024, p.138)

<sup>5</sup> The AfPE, Safe Practice: in PE, School Sport and Physical Activity. (AfPE & UK Coaching, 2024, p.139)