Mansfield Primary School
Swimming Policy

BASIC BELIEF
Swimming is an integral and essential part of the physical education program. Becoming a confident and competent swimmer is essential to student safety, as well as increasing opportunities for both leisure and sporting pursuits.

IMPLEMENTATION
- The school’s annual swimming program will be organised and coordinated by the Swimming teacher who will be in attendance at all times. The program will only involve the use of municipal and commercial swimming pools, and will comply with DEECD requirements at all times.
- A minimum of 2 staff members will be in attendance at all times, one being a qualified teacher employed by either the school council or DEECD who has overall responsibility for the program. At least one staff member involved in instruction must hold an AUSTSWIM Teacher of Swimming and Water Safety certificate. At least one staff member will have current CPR qualifications.
- Minimum overall DEECD staff-student ratios will be followed at all times. That is:
  - Beginners: (shallow water – little or no experience) 1 staff to maximum 10 students.
  - Intermediate: (basic skills and able to swim 25 metres with a recognisable stroke) 1 staff to maximum 12 students.
  - Advanced: (able to swim 50 metres using 2 recognisable strokes and demonstrate 1 survival stroke in deep water) 1 staff to maximum 15 students.
- All teaching staff involved in swimming programs will be encouraged to be AUSTSWIM qualified. School council will employ additional AUSTSWIM qualified instructors where available to assist with the program, and will only use volunteers who are under the supervision of an AUSTSWIM qualified instructor.
- The staff member in charge will check that all volunteers have completed a Working with Children Check.
- The swimming program will follow Levels 1-7 of the RLSSA Aquapass program, with student progress, achievement levels, reports and certificates being coordinated by the Swimming teacher.
- The program will consist of a minimum of 12 sessions.
- An alternative program will be provided on wet weather days.
- An emergency drill will be explained and practiced at the start of the program, and throughout the program. All staff are required to carry a whistle and be prepared to respond in an emergency.
- Parents must provide a completed and signed swimming permission form for their child to participate in the program, and staff associated with the swimming program are to be made familiar with medical histories of students in respect to epilepsy, diabetes, asthma and heart conditions, and appropriate measures taken.
Students with ear infections, throat infections, colds, papillomas and other contagious infections will not be permitted to enter the water until they have recovered.
- Costs associated with swimming programs are paid by parents. Parents experiencing financial difficulty should contact the Principal.

This policy was ratified by the Mansfield Primary School Council on – 17th December, 2013

Review Date: 2016