

MATER DEI POOL GUIDELINES

Mater Dei School is committed to providing a safe and supportive swimming program that prioritises the dignity and encourages the participation of all students, including those with specific needs.

Healthy Swimming

Mater Dei recognises the importance of minimising potential health risks to staff and students by maintaining pool water that is free from contamination.

For this reason Mater Dei implements the following guidelines to help maintain water quality:

- Students who are identified with bowel incontinence are to be bowel continent for 4 weeks before they can begin participating in the swimming program;
- Students and staff are not to swim for 2 weeks after having diarrhoea;
- Students and staff are not to swim for 2 weeks after having any other contagious illness or open sore;
- Students who have soiled themselves prior to swimming are to be showered by a Teacher Assistant before entering the pool and are to wear Splash About Swimwear Splash Shorts provided by Mater Dei. (this is for students who may have had an accident, who are identified as soiling for behavioural reasons, or students who are toilet-timed) However, any student whose stools are loose are not to swim as it may be the onset of diarrhoea;
- Younger students who have emptied their bowels prior to their swimming lesson are to be checked by staff to ensure that they have cleaned themselves adequately;
- Toilet Tracking Data is to be kept for younger students, toilet-timed students or students who are identified as being at risk of soiling. Discussions are to be conducted between the Executive, teacher/s, TA and pool staff before one of the above students may participate in the swimming program;
- Older students are to be reminded about personal hygiene before swimming;
- Posters are to be prominently displayed in change rooms regarding toileting before swimming, appropriate personal hygiene etc;
- All students are to go to the toilet before swimming. Staff are to offer younger students the opportunity to toilet during lessons;
- Toilet-timed students and students who may be at risk of soiling are to be removed from the pool at least once during their swimming lesson to be toileted;

- Toilet-timed and students who may be at risk of soiling are to wear Splash About Swimwear Splash Shorts (swimwear to be provided by parent/guardian);
- Students who have accidentally soiled more than twice in the week are not to swim that week. This information will be gained from the Toilet Tracking that teachers/TA will complete. Parents/guardians will be notified if this applies to their child;
- Students who have previously been excluded from swimming for reasons of accidental soiling etc are to transition back into the pool wearing Splash About Swimwear Splash Shorts provided by Mater Dei;
- Students who are menstruating are not to participate in the swimming program until the end of their menstruation cycle. The Pastoral Teacher/s and TA/s are to monitor and communicate this, especially job-share partners;
- If a student soils in the pool when wearing Splash About Swimwear Splash Shorts pool staff must still follow all protocols with regards to super chlorination etc; and
- If a student soils in the pool then they are to be bowel continent for 2 weeks before resuming their place in the swimming program and are to transition back wearing Splash About Swimwear Splash Shorts provided by Mater Dei.

Student Dignity

To maintain the dignity of our students Mater Dei requires:

- Female students to wear a one piece swimming costume, board shorts and a rash shirt;
- Male students to wear speedos, board shorts and a rash shirt;
- All students to be changed in the designated pool change rooms only; and
- No student to wear swimwear under their school uniform to or from school.

Employees Responsibility

All Mater Dei employees are required to follow the guidelines as set out above.

Parent/Guardian Responsibility

To minimise the risk of infection and serious illness to staff and students, Mater Dei parents/guardians are required to comply with the following guidelines:

- Inform Mater Dei staff if their child has presented with diarrhoea, any other contagious illness or open sore, is menstruating or who has demonstrated a regression in toilet training/bowel continence; and
- Purchase and provide a pair of Splash About Swimwear Splash Shorts if their child is toilet timed or is identified as a student who may be at risk of soiling.

To ensure the dignity of the child, Mater Dei parents/guardians are required to comply with the following guidelines:

- Provide their child with the required swimwear eg. female students to wear a one piece swimming costume, board shorts and a rash shirt and male students to wear speedos, board shorts and a rash shirt; and
- Refrain from sending their child to school wearing any form of swimwear under their school uniform.

Implementation

These guidelines are implemented through a combination of:

- Staff training to equip staff with knowledge, skills and understanding to enable students with disabilities to participate in the full range of educational programmes or services, on the same basis and to the same extent as students without disabilities;
- Student and parent/guardian education and information;
- A culture that maintains the dignity and privacy of all Mater Dei students;
- The establishment of processes for ongoing evaluation, tracking, monitoring and review of the effectiveness of the management of Mater Dei individual student needs;
- Effective communication and incident notification procedures;
- Effective record keeping procedures; and
- Initiation of corrective actions where necessary.

RELATED POLICIES/STATEMENTS

Mater Dei Disability Discrimination Policy

Disability Standards for Education 2005

Annexure

Little Toggs Size and Price Guide

Approved at Leadership Team YES / NO / NA	Signed	Date
Approved at Board YES / NO / NA	Signed	Date
Staff Briefed YES / NO	Signed	Date
Review Date February 2017		

