



Friday 29th March 2019

Swimming

Dear Families,

It has come to my attention that a post has been placed on Facebook making reference to the arrangements for children getting changed for school swimming lessons at The Queen's Diamond Jubilee Centre, run by leisure contractor GLL.

I am writing to inform all parents that the information in the post is inaccurate and to reassure parents that the school takes its duty of care to children both on and off school premises very seriously, placing the highest priority on safeguarding and promoting their welfare.

Due to the growth of the school over the last few years, there are now five classes that attend swimming lessons on Fridays. Most of the children are able to change in rooms dedicated for the use of schools but the large numbers mean that some children have to change in public changing areas.

Those children are closely supervised at all times by at least one teacher and one other authorised adult. The centre has signage asking any members of the public using the changing room to change well away from the children. The number of adults who use the changing room at the same time as school pupils is small.

All accompanying adults have received safeguarding training and have been specifically briefed to challenge and report any inappropriate behaviour by a member of the public. There have never been any incidents of concern. The children are never left unsupervised. Pool staff are very supportive, and have also been well trained in safeguarding procedures. Any additional requirements from the school have been adequately responded to by pool staff.

I would also remind all parents that concerns about school matters should not be the subject of discussion, speculation or gossip on social media. As always, parents are invited to raise any concerns directly with me. Furthermore, the school will take action against any person making false allegations or writing malicious posts about the school on social media.

I hope that this provides reassurance about the school's arrangements for supervising and keeping children safe while attending swimming lessons. Should you require any further information, please contact the school.

Yours sincerely,

Claire Stringer
Headteacher