



# South Dartmoor Community College

Executive Head teacher | Mrs J Veal  
Balland Lane | Ashburton | Devon | TQ13 7EW  
01364 652230 | [www.southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk](http://www.southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk)

*Empowering everyone to be the best they can be.*



30 April 2026

Dear Parent / Carer

## Swimming and Life Saving Course

As part of a national focus on improving young people's water safety and swimming ability, the UK government continues to emphasise the importance of all children leaving primary school able to swim at least 25 metres and demonstrate basic water safety skills. However, recent national data suggests that around **1 in 3 children are still unable to meet this standard by the end of primary school**, highlighting the need for additional support and opportunities at secondary school.

Swimming is not only a key life skill but one that can have a lasting impact. As the Royal Life Saving Society UK states: *"Swimming is a life-saving skill that provides lifelong physical, mental and social benefits."*

With this in mind, we are pleased to offer a **FREE 6-week swimming and lifesaving course** as part of a pilot programme designed to support students in developing their water confidence and safety skills. Students have recently completed a survey regarding their water confidence and, based on this information, your child has been selected to take part in this programme.

Key details:

- The sessions will run for **6 weeks** and will take place **during school hours on Friday mornings**, starting after May half term
- **Transport to and from the swimming venue will be provided**
- The programme will include both **swimming development and lifesaving skills**
- **There is no cost** to families for this opportunity

If you would like your child to take part, please **complete the consent form on ParentPay**. If you have any questions or would like further information, please do not hesitate to get in touch.

Kind regards,

Charlotte Avery-Wright

[caverywright@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk](mailto:caverywright@southdartmoor.devon.sch.uk)

Truth Respect Equality Excellence