



PEMBROKE
A PRIORY ACADEMY

Dear Parents/Carers,

June 2023

Swimming in Rivers – Safety Concern

We are writing to you today to address a safety concern that has come to our attention. It has been brought to our notice that some of our Pembroke students have been swimming in local rivers. With the summer months approaching, we want to take a moment to remind everyone about the potential dangers associated with swimming in rivers, particularly for teenagers. It is essential that we educate them about the risks involved and reinforce the necessary precautions to ensure their safety.

Rivers can be deceptive in their calm appearance, hiding hidden threats that pose serious risks to swimmers. Strong currents, submerged obstacles, changes in depth, and water quality issues are among the dangers that individuals may encounter. To protect our teenagers, we urge you to take the following precautions:

Supervision: Ensure that children are always supervised by responsible adults or trained individuals with lifeguarding experience when swimming in rivers.

Education: Have open conversations with your children about the potential dangers of swimming in rivers. Teach them to read warning signs and to respect advice from local authorities regarding river safety.

Swimming proficiency: Encourage your children to participate in swimming lessons or programs that enhance their swimming skills and water confidence. Proficiency in swimming significantly reduces the risk of accidents.

Location assessment: Before allowing your children to swim in a river, assess the location for potential hazards. If uncertain, it is best to encourage them to stay away from the area altogether.

By implementing these precautions, we can mitigate the risks associated with swimming in rivers and safeguard the well-being of our teenagers during the summer months. I kindly request that you take the time to discuss these dangers with your children and emphasise the importance of responsible behaviour around bodies of water.

If you have any questions or concerns regarding this matter, please do not hesitate to reach out to us. Together, let us prioritise our children's safety and ensure they have a fun and enjoyable summer while minimising any potential risks.

Thank you for your attention to this important issue.

Yours sincerely,

Priory Pembroke

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