# FAQs – for parents and carers

School swimming outside of school hours vouchers program

## Why are the vouchers being provided?

Swimming and water safety education is part of the F-10 Victorian Curriculum Health and Physical Education.

School Swimming Outside of School Hours Vouchers are being provided to current primary school students who had their school swimming and water safety programs cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and/or 2021 to ensure they have the knowledge and confidence to participate in aquatic activities.

## Who are the vouchers for?

The vouchers are for current primary school students who missed out on participating in school swimming and water safety programs because of the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021 to build their skills and knowledge to achieve the Victorian Water Safety Certificate and meet the Victorian Curriculum requirements.

## How can my child/children access swimming lessons using the voucher?

Parents and carers will receive a letter from their school which has a voucher and a request form.

If you would like your child(ren) to access swimming lessons using the vouchers, you must:

1. complete the request form for your child(ren) and return it to your school by the date indicated on the letter
2. book swimming lessons for dates and times of your choosing after the date on the voucher
3. Once confirmed with the swim school, take the voucher to the swim school for the first swimming lesson.

## Are the vouchers transferrable?

No. Only current primary school students who missed out on school swimming and water safety programs in 2020 and/or 2021 will be eligible for the Voucher program.

The swim school will have a list of the students who are eligible for the program and for whom the request form has been returned.

## When will the swimming lessons be delivered?

Lessons will be delivered outside of school hours - after school, on the weekend or during school holidays.

For example, swim schools may offer students places in their regular learn to swim program or, alternatively, offer intensive school holiday programs and parents and carers will book lessons for a time that best suits their needs.

## How many lessons can my child(ren) access?

This will be different for each school in the program and will depend on several factors including:

* number of year levels accessing lessons
* number of lessons per year level
* cost per lesson
* availability of lessons outside of school hours.

Schools will liaise with their usual swim school to confirm the number of swimming lessons students can access and when they can access them (e.g. after school, on the weekend or during school holidays).

## Is there an expiry date for the vouchers?

Students should be booked into the Voucher program swimming lessons before 30 June 2022 and all lessons using the vouchers completed by the end of 2022.

## Where can the voucher be used?

The voucher can only be used at the swim school named on the voucher for the purposes of the School Swimming Outside School Hours Voucher program.

## What are parents and carers’ responsibilities?

Parents and carers will be responsible for getting their child(ren) to and from and the swim school as well as for visual supervision during their time at the swim centre.

## What is meant by supervision at the swim school?

Parents and carers will be responsible for visual supervision of their child(ren), in line with the requirements of swim schools. Parents and carers should speak to the swim school if they need further information on these requirements.

## How much will this cost my family?

There is no cost to families for the swimming lessons. The vouchers are being paid for by your school to support the delivery of the Victorian F-10 Curriculum requirements.

## Is it compulsory to use the voucher?

You are being offered the opportunity for your child(ren) to have swimming lessons which have been cancelled because of the COVID-19 pandemic.

While it is not compulsory to use the voucher, it is important that all children learn how to be safe in and around water and be confident to participate in aquatic activities.

## How do we get to the swim school if we don’t have a car?

Please ask the swim school about public transport options or visit [Public Transport Victoria's Journey Planner](Public%20Transport%20Victoria%27s%20Journey%20Planner) for more information.