



Swimming Pool Hire

Thank you for your enquiry about hiring the school's swimming pool.

The school welcomes enquiries about pool hire from members of the community, for group pool use, subject to our overriding safety rules. We are unable to offer ad hoc swimming sessions for individuals.

This note answers Frequently Asked Questions, and we'd be please to talk to you in more detail when your needs are known!

Who can use the pool?

Families of pupils of NDPS are welcome to use the pool for organized events like birthday parties. Local organisations like Guides, Cubs etc are welcome to use the pool for badges, supervised parties, or regular sessions. Other informal groups like Senior Swimmers or ante natal groups are welcome to hire the pool for regular sessions.

NDPS wants to enable access to the wider community, so please do ask about your specific event.

Please see information below regarding life guards

How many people can use the pool?

A maximum of 15 swimmers may be in the pool at any time, for all hires where those under 16 will swim. Therefore a group of say 30 would need to be split so that 15 were in the pool while the others were occupied elsewhere.

What are facilities like?

The pool is maintained to a high level of hygiene, and complies with every appropriate regulation. The water is tested at least twice a day, and an outside chemical testing company tests water purity each month.

- The boiler and filter equipment are tested and certified fit for use, annually.
- The water is maintained at about 28 degrees centigrade.
- The pool is purified by a full filtration system, operated by staff who are fully trained in its use.
- Hirers may not access the shed that contains plant and machinery.
- There is a fully tested hoist for use by those trained in assisting the entry of those with special needs.



- The pool is fully enclosed by a glazed surround, the sides and doors of which may be opened to allow a range of access points.
- Two changing rooms are provided at the poolside, each with a shower, in a wet room type setting.
- Toilets are available in the nearby school building, and access is included with any hire.
- A grassed area is available adjacent to the pool structure, for supervised picnics or party games.
- The facility comprises of one pool, 15 metres by 10 metres. The depth graduates from 1 metre to 1.3 metres and is thereby defined as a deep water pool.
- There is an emergency telephone located pool side outside the changing rooms with access to an outside line.

Do I need a Lifeguard?

- All hires will need a qualified pool safety lifeguard present throughout the session.
- All hires where swimming will be taught to those under 16 will need both a qualified lifeguard and a second adult present throughout the pool session.
- Lifeguards might be staff from your group, eg Guide Leaders, or might be provided at the hirer's cost from Swimsense or other community groups. The school will need to see current qualifications.

Please check with the office for arrangements for those with special needs or accessibility issues.

Is there a car park?

During the school day we can offer no parking facilities because the car park is in use by school staff, other agencies, and transport for pupils with mobility difficulties.

In the evenings, at weekends and during the school holidays access to the school car park can be offered at no additional cost to the hirer.

What will it cost to hire the pool?

The governors have a set a pricing structure that reflects expenditure and advantages community youth groups. Please contact info@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk for pricing enquiries. At the time of writing the hourly rate is as follows:

In addition, any session booked outside of the caretaker's normal working week will attract a fee in respect of his non contracted time, presently £30 per session. This is an additional cost to the hirer. The office can tell you whether this will apply for your event.

Insurance of 15% of the hire cost will be added to those lettings where the hirer is unable to demonstrate their own appropriate insurance - normally this would only be groups like the Guides.



Other matters:

- Alcohol and smoking are not permitted on any part of NDPS premises.
- To avoid doubt, the pool enclosure must be locked when swimming sessions are finished but individuals are still in the adjacent picnic field, changing rooms or pool surroundings; no one may enter the enclosed area unless supervised as described in **Do I need a Lifeguard?**, above.

You will find the pool in a clean, hygienic and safe condition when your event starts. Hirers are expected to leave all the facilities in the same condition.

Unexpected events or problems with hygiene must be reported immediately to the caretaker, who has strict procedures for such an event; his contact details will be provided when you collect keys. Please bear in mind that other hirers will be using the facilities after you, as such, a deposit of £100 will be imposed, returnable when all facilities are left clean and undamaged.

Please e-mail info@northdowns.surrey.sch.uk for further information.