

Consultation for swimming provision in Norfolk

Norfolk County Council Children's Services has commissioned specialist leisure consultancy, PMP, to carry out a detailed evaluation of the co-ordination of swimming provision in Norfolk. This follows the publication of the Government's Swimming Charter in 2003 and current consultation on the top up swimming programme.

The study aims to drive development of a clear swimming strategy for Norfolk. It is examining opportunities to better co-ordinate swimming tuition, transport and pool hire across the county and, ultimately, to enhance the resultant benefits to young people.

The focus is not only on statutory curriculum requirements for swimming but the wider encouragement of increased participation through improved access to high quality swimming and water safety programmes.

PMP will be undertaking in-depth consultation with schools as well as swimming teachers, local authorities, Norfolk Alliance, leisure operators and swimming clubs to gain a clear understanding of the following areas:

- existing facilities and access
- strengths and success factors of current delivery
- areas of concern in relation to the present quality of provision and opportunities available to children and young people
- potential links to support the development of other off-site specialist teaching activities
- possible barriers to achieving a co-ordinated approach and how these could be overcome.

Consultation with schools is central to the success of the study. A questionnaire is being sent to Headteachers or Heads of PE and can be completed either by hand or online. We recognise the pressure on teacher's time but hope that schools will be able to assist in this important piece of work.

The online surveys can be accessed via the following link:

http://www.pmpconsult.com/news/on-line_question_index1.html

Martin Radmore, County PE/Sports Adviser, states: "Norfolk County Council is committed to ensuring that it provides the very best opportunities for its young people. Swimming is not only a vital life skill but a highly effective way to keep healthy and to socialise. The ability to swim provides access to other exciting sporting and leisure opportunities such as sailing, canoeing and other watersports. We actively encourage all schools to complete this questionnaire so that we can ensure best value in the provision of our statutory obligations to schools and young people."

If you have any general views on school swimming provision in Norfolk, please let us know by emailing us at:

SwimNorfolk@pmpconsult.com

For more information, please contact:

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