



Buckinghamshire Council Temporary School Pool (Pop-Up Pool) Swimming Policy 2025

1. Purpose

This Buckinghamshire Council Pop-Up Pool Swimming Policy supplements the Buckinghamshire Safe Practice in School Swimming Policy & Guidance 2025. It specifically addresses the use of pop-up swimming pools for school swimming, following Swim England's initial non-endorsement in July 2024 and subsequent guidance approving their use in December 2024. Having reviewed this guidance, the Council's position is to **not recommend** their use within Buckinghamshire for school swimming.

2. Scope

This policy applies to:

- Maintained schools in Buckinghamshire (non-maintained schools elect if they wish to follow this)
- Families and children of pupils in maintained schools in Buckinghamshire
- Buckinghamshire Council Commissioned School Swimming Advice and Guidance Partner (Bucks School Swimming Partnership)

3. Position on Temporary Pop-Up Swimming Pools

The Council's position is that temporary pop-up swimming pools **are NOT RECOMMENDED** for school swimming. This decision has been made due to the health and safety concerns raised in using pop-up pools. Advice from the Council's legal team and Health and Safety teams has been sought.

The Council recognises that the latest Swim England's guidance on temporary pop-up pools (December 2024) approves their use subject to the stringent recommendations being met. Having reviewed the contents of the guidance, the general concern is

that administrating and overseeing the necessary health and safety requirements, site safety, water drainage, contamination, emergency evacuation procedures would be challenging and pose inconsistencies.

For such reasons the Council's policy **does not recommend** the use of temporary pop-up pools for schools swimming in Buckinghamshire maintained schools.

4. Responsibilities

Any schools (academy, maintained, voluntary-aided, voluntary-controlled) that wish to commission temporary pop-up pools would need to ensure that they are responsible for implementing the full requirements as specified within the Swim England Temporary pop-up pool guidelines. Any additional costs that may be incurred in implementing the requirements will be borne by the school.

5. Review and Approval of Policy

This policy approved by Director of Children' Services Buckinghamshire Council on 6th May 2025 will be reviewed every two years in line with the Buckinghamshire Safer Swimming School Policy.

Background Papers

- [Briefing note on use of temporary 'pop-up' swimming pools is published](#)