



Dear Parents / Carers,

Following yet another tragic drowning of a young person in our local area, the Local Authority have issued some further advice to help keep our children safe around water with the approaching summer holidays. We have highlighted the dangers in assembly this week but we would urge you to discuss the dangers with your child and so help prevent any further tragedies in the future.

Thank you.

*Mrs Page*

## **Water Safety – Rivers**

During the school holidays, and in particular in hot weather, increasing numbers of children put themselves at risk of drowning. On average 40-50 children drown per year in the UK. To keep yourself safe, when you are in, on or beside water, always follow the Water Safety Code.

### **The Water Safety Code (RoSPA)**

#### **Spot the dangers!**

Water may look safe, but it can be dangerous. Learn to spot and keep away from dangers. You may swim well in a warm indoor pool, but that does not mean that you will be able to swim in cold water.

#### **The dangers of water include:**

- it is very cold
- there may be hidden currents
- it can be difficult to get out (steep slimy banks)
- it can be deep
- there may be hidden rubbish, e.g. shopping trolleys, broken glass
- there are no lifeguards
- it is difficult to estimate depth
- it may be polluted and may make you ill

## **Water Safety – Beaches Staying SAFE at the beach (RNLI)**

This lesson plan is designed to give pupils information to help them make safer choices near water. The lifeguard flags outlined in the following link are based on the international standard beach safety code, so knowledge of these is important at any lifeguarded beach around the world.

### **SHORETHING – Staying Safe at the Beach**

<http://rnli.org/safetyandeducation/teachersandyouthleaders/resources/downloadresources/Documents/Beachsafetyassembly.pdf>