



Dear Parents and carers,

## Penwith Schools Swimming Gala Changes

I am writing this letter to explain the recent changes in the Penwith Schools Swimming Gala. In recent years this gala has been attended by many schools, including Penpol, who take their elite swimming teams to compete. The children from Penpol previously selected have been the most confident swimmers during their school swimming lessons.

This year, The Cornwall Sports Partnership has decided to change direction. The Cornwall School Games has redirected its focus away from elite competition and towards participation. The aim of this particular event is to provide an opportunity for swimmers who might not usually get the chance to compete. We know that this will be disappointing for those who would have previously been selected but recognise the positive effect it will have across school sport. The children selected this year are those we feel have made very good progress within their swimming lessons and have been rewarded with the opportunity to represent the school. We are committed to ensuring that our more confident athletes do not miss out and I have suggested to our local school games organiser that we run a gala for those elite swimmers. This will be discussed at our next cluster meeting and we will update you as soon as possible.

Below is the response I received from the Cornwall Sports Partnership:

*The School Games Swim Gala is funded to target those young people that don't compete for a club and give them the opportunity to represent their school in a competitive environment, School Games should be seen as a very different format of competition for schools than normal school competition. It will hopefully entice more young people to get involved in a community setting.*

If you have any questions surrounding the swimming gala, please do contact Mr Chislett or myself and we will be happy to discuss them with you.

Many thanks,

Mr N Stanlake