

DERVENTIO eXCEL SWIM SQUAD



Ecclesbourne eXcels

On Saturday 3 February, Ecclesbourne School took part in the English Schools' Swimming Association National Finals in Harrogate. The Junior Girls teams had qualified for the four by 50 m Freestyle relay and the four by 50 m Medley relay by winning their regional heats in November and having one of the fastest 12 times in the country.

The event showcased the top swimming schools in the country and Ecclesbourne were ably represented by their students who regularly swim for local clubs like Belper Marlins, City of Derby and Derby Phoenix.

The girls team was made up from Sasha Wisdich, Ellie Taylor and Fiona Donnelly with Laura Young in the Freestyle Relay and Louise Griffith in the Medley Relay. Sasha, Ellie and Fiona train with Derventio eXcel, Derbyshire's elite swim squad and Mark Rose, their Head Coach, was pleased to support the school and provided some additional coaching to help prepare them all for the competition.

At the tournament, the girls did not make the final heat for the freestyle relay, but did improve on their medley time from the heats to be the second fastest qualifiers.

In the Medley final, the girls held onto their second place and lost out to the eventual winners who posted a new competition record in the process. Ecclesbourne's team manager, Lisa Brannan, was very pleased with the swimmers as they were awarded second place just behind a private and specialist sports school. Ms Brannan said that "Given their young age, the girls did very well and we hope that they can take the record next year". Mark Rose, the Derventio eXcel Head Coach, said that it was a testament to the hard work and preparation that the girls had put in and he was very pleased that the club was able to help the school and the swimmers.

Derventio eXcel is a partnership between all Derbyshire Swimming Clubs, Derby City Council, South Derbyshire District Council, North East Derbyshire Council, Amber Valley Borough Council, Chesterfield Borough Council, Derbyshire Amateur Swimming Association, British Swimming, Derbyshire Sport, the University of Derby and Derby College. It is one of a select number of squads that are endorsed and supported by British Swimming.

Swimmers at Derventio eXcel train for up to 27 hours per week, with six sessions starting at 5 30am. They train in a wide range of facilities over the county including: John Port School, Manor College, Middlecroft, Moorways, Queens, Queens Park, Ripley, Eckington & Sharley Park Clay Cross Leisure Centres

For further comment regarding this press release or to discuss any aspect of the Derventio eXcel programme, please contact Mark Rose – Head Coach on: 07956 516618