

Title: Sport Department Policies			
Ref.:	SOP034	Rev.: 2	Date: Sept 2018

Yateley Manor School Sports Department Policies

Rev.	Date	Amendment	Approved By:	Authorised By:
2	Sept 2018	Full Review	PD/BE	RU
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Department Aims

Our aims are to enable children:

1. To develop a positive attitude to sport. We want our pupils to display an enthusiasm and delight in sport and for this attitude to be carried through to adulthood. We want our pupils to enjoy sport.
2. To develop high standards of skills, fitness and techniques in a variety of sports.
3. To develop socially through sport through
 - a. Cooperating and working in teams
 - b. Rejecting stereotypes and prejudices
 - c. Dealing positively with both failure and success
 - d. Appreciating strengths and weaknesses in themselves and others
 - e. Understanding sportsmanship and fair play
 - f. Developing leadership skills
 - g. Participating in sport in the community.
4. To develop emotionally through the physical challenges and to develop self-respect, self-control and self-esteem.
5. To develop intellectually through
 - a. Learning specialist language and technical terms
 - b. Developing knowledge of strategies, tactics and rules
 - c. Planning, evaluation and problem solving
 - d. Understanding and making judgements
 - e. Recording, timing and measuring
6. To develop healthy bodies through understanding the benefits of exercise, good nutrition and hygiene.
7. To develop safe practices by understanding the dangers inherent in sport.
8. To develop organisational ability through changing properly, learning to follow instructions and by looking after equipment properly.

Teaching practice and ethos

Good sporting educational and social opportunities are developed in our lessons through mixed ability teaching. However, in team game lessons it is important to teach pupils in ability groups, to fulfil their potential and prepare teams properly. They can be taught at the appropriate level, with the relevant practices and methodology in a safe environment.

Safety is paramount. A very fast bowler against a novice, an extremely strong mid-field soccer player tackling a weaker opponent, a small boy trying to tackle a large, fast boy in rugby, are all examples of when ability grouping is a necessary safe arrangement.

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Pupils who are good at sport tend to be very competitive. As a result, less able children may not be very involved by others in a game, since their level of play would weaken the team effort. What is good for a team may not be good for a particular individual. This can easily make that individual feel inadequate. Pupils need to train with others of a similar standard, with practices which suit their ability. An 'A-Team' type practice in football might include heading and attacking from a corner. This would not suit some weaker players who can hardly head a ball at all.

Teachers are rotated around ability groups. All the main sports staff also take different age groups for matches. Staffing is not dictated by age or ability and all children have equal opportunity to be taught by all the staff.

Within ability groupings, we differentiate for the needs of the individual wherever possible. All children are given the best opportunity possible to learn, develop and achieve to the best of their ability. All children and their sporting development are equally important.

We achieve our aims through lessons and after school clubs

Weekly Timetable

Year 2 1 double PE and 1 double Games
Years 3 & 4 1 double PE and 2 double Games
Year 5 1 single PE and 2 double Games
Years 6-8 1 double and 1 triple Games

Each double lesson is 1 hour long.

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CURRICULUM

PE lessons: Gymnastics, swimming, dance, tennis, athletics, cross-country, basketball, girls' soccer, boys' hockey, fitness

Years 2-8 Games:	Boys	Girls
Autumn	Soccer, Basketball, Swimming	Netball, Hockey, Basketball, Swimming
Spring	Rugby, Hockey, Basketball, Swimming	Netball, Hockey, Soccer, Swimming
Summer	Cricket, Athletics, Swimming	Rounders, Athletics, Swimming

- In Years 7 and 8, pupils have the choice of playing in a team and therefore training for that sport, or they can opt for a variety of sports which will not be preparing for matches.
- After school each evening, there are a variety of sports' clubs available to all and each year has about 2 to 3 clubs a week on offer. Obviously, the more sport you play, the better you become, but it is not a requirement to attend a club to be selected for a team.
- PE and clubs are taught in mixed ability groups, as are Games lessons for athletics and swimming. Team Games' lessons are setted according to ability.
- This means that 50% of lessons and clubs in Year 5 and below are taught in mixed ability groups.
- Lesson time includes House Matches, which are competitive team game sports based on House competitions. All pupils in the house who wish to play can participate in these competitions.

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FIXTURE POLICY

The school plays fixtures on Wednesday (years 5 upwards) and Thursday afternoons (years 3 & 4). Some tournaments and cup games take place during the school day outside of the main fixture afternoons.

The pupils who are not in matches on fixture afternoons take part in the options programme; this includes games and a variety of enjoyable clubs arranged by the Deputy Head.

The ideal situation and one which we constantly strive to achieve is that all pupils who want to play in a match can do so.

Inter-school fixtures are also arranged as these are an ideal opportunity to continue with and develop the educational aims we start in lesson time.

Over the last 5 years the school has moved away from only A and B team fixtures. We now have more and more pupils playing in matches each year. All pupils in year 7 & 8 now play regular matches each term if they so wish. In other years all pupils play at least a couple of matches. This is real progress and it improves every year.

To further increase involvement we arrange internal matches which involve teas with parents watching to make them important. This fixture approach is constantly developing but is difficult to achieve. Many schools are reluctant to involve so many pupils and we are limited by staff and facilities. Providing fixtures for all is a difficult ideal which we constantly seek and hopefully achieve more and more each year. It is very interesting to read other schools' calendars and fixture lists. You can then easily see how much more pupil involvement we have at Yateley Manor. Most other schools still only offer 'A' and 'B' fixtures in each year group.

To accommodate extra fixtures on a Wednesday, we appoint the best part-time staff available. All have to be qualified, experienced and DBS checked. These staff are given guidance and information about the teams they take and always feed back to the full time staff afterwards

SELECTION POLICY

In competitions, tournaments, sports' tours and 'A' team matches, we pick our best team. Sometimes a squad of players might be rotated if, for instance, an 11 a-side football team has 14 players of a similar standard. Pupils in the year below can be used if they are good enough. We do not restrict talent but try to nurture it. 'B' teams are similar but we do not use pupils from younger years and we do try to get more pupils involved. 'C' teams and below are all about getting as many pupils who want to play involved in matches. These are also ranked on ability.

However, children cannot play out of their depth. If a pupil is placed in a team where the other pupils' ability is greater, it can be detrimental to their self-esteem. They feel, or are made to feel by their peers that they are letting the team down, which is very de-motivating. It is only fair in all aspects that pupils play with and against players of a similar ability. It is also dangerous to have children of different abilities playing together in certain situations, e.g. a county fast-bowler bowling to a novice or a small, inexperienced pupil trying to tackle a large 'A' team forward in a rugby match. Safety is always paramount in our planning.

Team selection is usually finalised by the team manager if they are one of the full-time PE staff. Selection is always discussed amongst the relevant staff and teams are carefully chosen. In individual sports such as swimming and athletics, where we record times and distances, we use these as a basis for team selection. We always ensure that we get regular feedback from staff who only come in on a Wednesday afternoon for matches. Some pupils do regularly play in 'A' teams for many sports because they have natural, wide-ranging ability.

At the beginning of each sporting season, we try to assess existing and particularly new pupils who have joined the school recently, with a fresh outlook and do not pick teams based on the previous year. We accept that some pupils have not progressed that well when other pupils have improved tremendously. This assessment continues throughout the season after every lesson and every match. Sports' staff are always meeting and discussing these situations to be as fair as possible to all our pupils. We take great care to explain the selection process involved to the children.

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SPORTS' DAY

Our sports day format allows all pupils to participate more at a suitable level as individuals and to compete in house/team events.

There are now three individual and three team events. The individual events are 300m or 600m, 75m sprints and either throwing, hurdling, high jump or long jump. These are all graded according to ability to have a fair race. The top performers still compete against the other top performers but the majority only have to compete against pupils of similar ability. In each event a gold, silver or bronze medal is awarded immediately.

The three team events in houses are swimming, tug of war and shuttle relays. In these events the pupils work together, help each other and bring out the best in each other. Succeeding or otherwise in a team situation is one of the most important sporting learning situations for all pupils.

The day finishes with house relay races - 4 x 75m for boys and girls in each year. This proves to be an exciting event before the trophies are presented for swimming, tug of war and athletics - all house events.

COLOURS

In the majority of sports, where there is plenty of participation during the year, pupils are awarded a 'Colours' badge and tie if they have demonstrated ability, effort and attitude within the given sport. This is a reward for pupils who have demonstrated high standards in sport.

Junior Colours are awarded to pupils in Year 6 and Senior Colours in Year 8. Junior Colours are gained through a consistent achievement of the criteria stated, from Years 3 to 6. Senior Colours are the same from Years 7 to 8.

Generally, regular 'A' team players achieve Colours, but not always! Poor attitude can occasionally let talented players down. Talented 'B' team players can also occasionally gain their Colours.

Each award is thoroughly discussed amongst the relevant staff to achieve a fair view of each award. If pupils feel they should have gained their Colours and did not, they have the right to appeal and the situation will be reviewed. Mistakes can happen and we are only too pleased to ensure that all pupils who deserve the award achieve them.