



Clifton High School

co-educational nursery pre-school to sixth form

Policy applies from EYFS to Sixth Form	Sports Selection
Date policy updated	01.10.2020
Date policy to be reviewed	01.05.2021
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A shaded area denotes a regulation to which all schools must comply	

Clifton High School is committed to child protection and safeguarding children and young people and expects all staff, visitors and volunteers to share this commitment.

Clifton High School aims to encourage all pupils to enjoy sport whether it is individual, team, competitive or creative. It aims to foster a level of participation and engagement in sport that will bring enjoyment throughout each pupil's life and be of benefit health wise and socially.

Our aims are to enable pupils to develop

- A positive attitude to sport. The School wants pupils to display an enthusiasm and delight in sport to promote lifelong participation in regular activity
- High standards of skills, fitness and techniques in a variety of sports
- Socially whilst enjoying sport through
 - Cooperating and working in teams
 - Rejecting stereotypes and prejudices
 - Dealing positively with both failure and success
 - Appreciating strengths and weaknesses in themselves and others
 - Understanding sportsmanship and fair play
 - Developing leadership skills
 - Participating in sport in the community
- Emotionally through the physical challenges and to develop self-respect, self-control and self-esteem
- Intellectually through
 - Learning specialist language and technical terms
 - Developing knowledge of strategies, tactics and rules
 - Planning, evaluation and problem solving
 - Understanding and making judgements
 - Recording, timing and measuring
 - Developing healthy bodies through understanding the benefits of exercise, good nutrition and hygiene
- Safe practices by understanding the dangers inherent in sport
- Organisational ability through changing independently, learning to follow instructions and by looking after equipment properly

Selection for Team Fixtures

In line with the School aims, Clifton high School recognise the need to be inclusive but also the need to ensure safety and to avoid damage to a pupil's self-esteem. Throughout sports lessons and club activities, members of the Physical Education Department and other teachers regularly assess pupil's aptitude, ability, enthusiasm and conduct.

Considering this the following guidelines are applied

- Team selection is the decision of the teachers who will use their professional judgement to select the best team for each fixture
- Teachers will keep a record of their selections; these will be posted on the School Website one week before fixtures and an overall analysis of selection and results will be completed at the end of each term
- The selection of players for a team will consider the opposition i.e. if the department know the opposition will play only their best players, Clifton High School will do the same. This ensures players are not out of their depth and pupils are much happier if a team is successful. Good results often raise spirits throughout the entire School community
- Whenever possible the School will seek A and B team fixtures to allow more pupils to participate
- Whenever possible the School will enter 'Bottoms Up' tournaments for those pupils not regularly in A team fixtures
- In the Junior School, the teachers commit that all pupils will represent the School at least once, in a fixture, each term
- When appropriate opportunities arise, the School will endeavour to extend selection to include all pupils
- In selecting teams, priority is given to pupils who
 - Attend club activities and practices regularly
 - Show a genuine interest and enthusiasm for the sport in matches, practices and lessons
 - Apply themselves fully and at all times in Games and PE lessons
 - Display a particular aptitude for the sport and a level of fitness and skill that will ensure they are not placed at risk in a competitive game
 - Are more practised and have demonstrated a high level of skill and effort
 - Conduct themselves in an appropriate way in a competitive situation, when visiting and travelling to and from other Schools and when hosting guest teams
- First Team squad members will sign a commitment contract to reiterate the expectations of the Physical education department for training and fixtures

Selection for Individual sports

In individual sports such as swimming and athletics, times and distances are recorded and these are used as a basis for selection but the criteria listed above also apply to the selection process.

All members of the Physical Education Department meet regularly and have the benefit of seeing every pupil in the context of a group, which places them in the best position to make selections. Great care is taken to ensure fairness and we would ask that parents respect their expertise and need to ensure fairness and the pupil's safety.

Selection for Sports Captains

In line with our aims, the School selects Sports Captains to lead the Senior School teams and to act as a role model to all pupils taking part in sport. Throughout sports lessons and club activities, members of the Physical Education Department and other teachers regularly assess pupil's aptitude, ability, enthusiasm and conduct. Considering this the following guidelines are applied

- Captain selection is the decision of the teachers who will use their professional judgement to select the most suitable captain for each individual sport
- Teachers will keep a record of pupil's attendance, attitude and commitment to sports throughout their time at Clifton High School
- Potential First Team Sports Captains will be interviewed for the role by the Head of School Sport and Extra-Curricular, the Head of Sport (Boys), the Head of Sport (Girls) and the Assistant Head – Sixth Form

Commitment to Sport at Clifton High School

Sport plays an integral role in the development of teamwork, character resilience and a feel-good factor within the School. Attendance at training and Saturday fixtures is integral to ensuring the success of sport at Clifton High School. As a result, it is an expectation for all pupils to be available to represent the School if selected. Details of all fixtures are published on the School website and sent to parents at the start of each term. There will be occasions, where a pupil is unavailable for a Saturday fixture for an event such as a wedding and with suitable notice, provision can be made to fill the gap. However, request at short notice, or to attend other sporting events or parties, are contrary to the Clifton High School team ethic and will result in an unauthorised absence mark on the pupil's School record. Parents must email the teacher in charge of the fixture, at least one week in advance, detailing any unavailability and the reason for this.

Attitude and Respect in Sport at Clifton High School

Sport is highly emotive and facilitates passion in abundance. At Clifton High School this is expected to be funnelled into positive energy and excellent sportsmanship. This equates to pupils arriving at matches with an excitement to represent the School and exerting maximum effort. Winning and losing is all part of sport, and the expectation is to be honourable and respectful to teammates, opposition and officials always.

Sports Scholarship Pupils

As stated in the 'Conditions of Scholarship, School Assisted Place and Bursary Awards' letter, accepted as part of the Terms and Conditions of the Offer and Acceptance of a School Place at Clifton High School, any pupil who has gained a Sports Scholarship is expected to work hard, achieve excellent results and contribute positively to the life of the School. These pupils are expected to represent the School in the sport they gained the award for and their commitment, attitude and respect is a minimum requirement at all sports fixtures.