

Esher Church School



Sports team selection policy

March 2024

Reviewed:	March 2024
Reviewed by:	Ben Foley
Review Cycle:	3 years
Next review date:	March 2027

Role of school

Esher Church School's aims for PE and sport throughout the school are to:

- encourage children to enjoy all aspects of Physical Education (PE) and sport, whether it is competitive or creative, individual or team based. This helps them to play or participate in sports and remain active throughout their lives, which has many benefits both to their health and wellbeing as well as socially.
- strive for all pupils to receive 2 hours per week of quality PE and sport provision as part of the curriculum and experience competitive and non-competitive sport, including internal, (playing many matches within lessons) and external (at sports events and tournaments) sports experiences.

As with other curriculum areas, pupils' attainment and progress is carefully monitored to ensure that the skills of all pupils are developed appropriately. The school perceives intra-school and inter-school sports as a means of extending experiences for pupils that demonstrate the requisite skills and qualities in the curriculum area.

As a school we enter many matches, festivals and tournaments (both competitive and non-competitive) and all staff involved recognise the need to work towards an inclusive approach that enables as many pupils as possible to experience competitive sport, in some cases representing the school, by the time they move on to the next stage of their education.

In some instances, depending on the competition, there will be a limited number of places available and this may well be age restricted due to the rules of the tournament. When this happens, using their professional judgement, in conjunction with views of external sports providers, either school staff select a team and/or sports trials will take place. Where trials take place, the team will be selected on the basis of the outcome of those trials.

Selection for team events is based on:

- Performance, effort and behaviour in lessons and practices
- Level of skills demonstrated
- Commitment to training and learning that sport
- Enthusiasm to learn and improve
- Level of fitness
- Understanding of games, tactics and rules
- Emotional maturity to cope with the pressure
- Attitude of player on and off the field of play
- How the player presents themselves, dress, manners, helpfulness, sportsmanship, etc.
- Performance as a team member
- Understanding of the importance of safety

All pupils (age dependent on individual tournament rules) who wish to represent the school in a team event are eligible to take part in the trials. Pupils will be informed of the selection process and the results.

For individual competition selection, for example: cross country, swimming and athletics, the pupils will be selected from professionals' monitoring in PE lessons/training and trials (where possible). Where trials have taken place, the pupils with the best results/times represent the school as long as they also fulfil the criteria stated previously for "team" selection.

Records are kept of participation at all sporting events and attendance at clubs. There is no limit to the number of sporting events that any one child can attend in an academic year.

Role of parents/carers

Taking part in different clubs/teams (inside and outside school) contributes to each child's personal development and self-esteem. This is more important than winning. All our pupils/teams play to "win" but not at any cost. It is important to compete/play in the right spirit and in a supportive atmosphere.

Parents/carers and other spectators have a great influence on the children's enjoyment and success in sport. Children play sports first and foremost because they love playing/competing.

Esher Church School is dedicated to nurturing that enjoyment and enthusiasm for sport and as a foundation for developing skills and tactics for life.

In order to achieve this, parents/carers, can support school as follows:

- If your child *is* chosen/chosen regularly, please help them to understand it is a privilege and honour to represent the school; that their selection should never be taken for granted and relies on ongoing effort from them to maintain and develop the talent they have shown; and that they should be proud of themselves and be an ambassador for the team they are part of.
- If your child *is not* chosen, please congratulate them on being prepared to compete for a place and encourage them to view this as a challenge from which they can learn and improve their skills/performance if they apply effort and keep practising. Also encourage them to understand that competition for places will always make the team stronger and that pride in their peers' performance is a valued behaviour regardless of whether they are in the team or not. There may well be other opportunities during the year to represent the school in other competitive and non-competitive sports events.

Additionally, parents/carers and supporters who attend competitions and matches are required to behave in an appropriate manner and to support all the children in the right way, as established in our sport specific Fair Play Promise (Appendix A).

Appendix A

The Fair Play Promise

Parents/carers and other spectators play a vital role in supporting children to develop healthy attitudes towards sport and competition. Most individual sports' governing bodies (e.g. the FA and RFU) promote Codes of Conduct and provide advice and video clips online to support adults with this. Esher Church School is a member of the Esher District Primary School Sports Association (EDPSSA), and as such, we abide by their Code.

The **ECS Fair Play Promise** is set out below.

Good sport is about positive attitude. You can set the right tone, and help make the game a success. Play your part - play fair!

The Fair Play Promise for players

- Play by the rules
- Never argue with an official
- Work hard to do my best at all times
- Be a good sport and recognise good players and good play by all involved
- Remember to thank my coach, the officials, the opposition and supporters
- Help others in my team when I can
- Avoid negativity (body language and spoken words) and putting people down

The Fair Play Promise for officials

- Control the game in a fair and positive manner
- Be consistent and fair in my decisions
- Modify my approach to suit the participant's level of ability
- Help players understand the rules by explaining decisions where appropriate
- Do what I can to make sure that everyone enjoys the game - including myself
- Encourage Fair Play and not tolerate foul play of any kind and always be firm but friendly

The Fair Play Promise for parents/carers

- Encourage my child, and other people's children, in their efforts in sport
- Insist that my child plays within the rules and by the principles of Fair Play
- Respect my child's efforts equally regardless of whether s/he has won or lost
- Display self-control on the sideline, always be positive and never shout at or ridicule players
- Watch my child play and let him/her enjoy the game
- Show my appreciation to people who volunteer their time so my child can play
- Remember that my child plays sport for his/her reasons not mine
- Be a positive role model for my child
- Never place undue pressure on my child to play or perform
- Make an effort to understand the rules of the game

The Fair Play Promise for supporters

- Remember that people are involved in sport for fun and enjoyment
- Support and applaud good performance from all competitors
- Make an effort to understand the rules of the game
- Learn the difference between supportive and abusive comments and rule out the latter
- Accept the decisions of officials and coaches
- Display self-control on the sideline, always be positive and never shout at or ridicule players
- Show my appreciation to people who volunteer their time to make sport happen