



# Team Selection Policy and Code of Conduct

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## Team Selection Policy

As with other curriculum areas, pupils' attainment and progress is carefully monitored to ensure that the skills of all pupils are developed appropriately. Our school motto "Treasure Each Individual" reflects our view that each child is very special and deserves to be valued in their own right and supported to develop their own unique talents. The school perceives inter-school sports as a means of extending experience for pupils and giving them the chance to demonstrate the requisite skills and qualities in the curriculum area.

As a school we enter 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 representing their school in competitive sport.

Depending on the event, there will be a limited number of places available. We will attempt to provide for all abilities however this may mean that for some events we will need to take our most competitive squad to compete. We believe that there is a careful balance to be struck between giving children experience of representing the school competitively and the risk to damaging their self-confidence and enthusiasm towards sports if they feel out of their depth. We understand how disappointing it is not to be chosen for a match and where possible, we will enter a 'B' or even a 'C' team. This will give these children the opportunity to represent the school in competition, rewarding them for their hard work and commitment to school clubs.

The teaching staff have sole responsibility for selecting children for a team or race event and we would ask that children and parents respect the teacher's decision.

Selection for team events is based on:

- Performance, effort and behaviour in lessons and clubs
- Level of skills demonstrated
- Attendance and commitment to school clubs (please make a member of staff aware if you cannot attend for any reason)
- Knowledge of participation in clubs outside of school
- 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
- Performance as a team member
- Understanding of the importance of safety

## **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, our primary focus is to have fun and improve throughout each game/competition.

Parents/carers and other spectators have an important role to support the children's enjoyment and success in sport. Children play sports first and foremost because they love competing/playing. We are dedicated to nurturing that enjoyment and enthusiasm for sport and as a foundation for developing skills and tactics for life.

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 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 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.

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, something we are very proud of here at Mordiford CE Primary School.

# Code of Conduct

To create the best possible atmosphere for participants and officials we ask that players, parents and staff adhere to these guidelines. We thank you for your understanding and support.

## Fair Play for Players

- Be ready to start each match promptly
- Set a positive example for other players and supporters
- Play by the rules and never argue with officials
- Always treat opponents with respect, no matter what the final result
- Do not use inappropriate language and avoid violence and rough play
- Do not wear jewellery, unsuitable clothing / footwear
- Thank officials and opponents after each match

## Fair Play for Teachers and Coaches

- The safety of the young people should be your priority
- Set a positive example for players, supporters and other staff - put the enjoyment of the pupils first
- Respect the officials and thank them and their assistants following each match
- Praise all athletes from every team for their efforts and achievements

## Fair Play for Parents and Supporters

- Remember that participation and enjoyment are more important than winning
- Encourage fair play and support all players
- Be a positive role model for participants and other spectators
- Do not argue with officials, if you have a concern please talk to a member of staff
- Make sure your child is dressed appropriately and has plenty of water for the activity they are doing