



BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

Sporting Arrangements

Introduction

In the Kindergarten and Pre-Prep children are taught by Miss Katie Jewers.

In the Prep Miss Louise Walter is Head of Physical Education and teaches all the mixed PE lessons, swimming lessons and all of the girls' games lessons.

Miss Clare Cussen, Mrs Jacqui Holland, Miss Katie Jewers and Miss Lucy Jewers teach girls games lessons.

Mr Richard Cross, Mr Pete McCreanor, Mr Dan Banks, Mr Tim Morphew and Mr Marc Titley teach boys games lessons.

Most of the staff above help with after school practices which happen on Thursdays. 2 members of staff take the cross country teams to the league events.

For the Autumn and Spring terms each class in Prep has:

- a 30 minute PE lesson
- a 1 hour 30 minutes games lesson

For the Summer term each class in Prep has:

- a 30 minute PE lesson
- a 1 hour 30 minutes games lesson
- additional Athletics sessions
- Each year group has 30 minutes swimming lessons for half of the Autumn term.

In the Pre-Prep, children in Kindergarten have one games session a week and in Reception/KSI children have a PE and a games session. In addition there is a 30 minutes swim session for Year 2 all year round and for Year 1 in the Summer term.

In addition, all year round on Wednesday afternoons the Prep children will either be in matches or participating in sport and all of the above staff will help with this. Children who are not doing games or matches will either observe the lesson or in very cold weather will be supervised at school.

Transport to off-site facilities/matches is usually by minibus but on occasions a coach has to be used or the children walk to the venue.

Facilities

On site:

- 2 x Hall/Gymnasium (one in the Pre-Prep and one in the Prep)
- Netball court/4 mini tennis courts/1 tennis court
- Tarmac area boarded for hockey/small netball court
- Pengwern (MUGA)
- Grass area adjacent to the Andrews Centre

Off- site:

- Whaddon recreational ground which is used for cross country running, rounders, athletics and sometimes Wednesday activities
- Newlands for rugby
- Victoria Cricket Ground for hockey, football, rounders and cricket
- Cheltenham College for swimming and the school swimming galas
- Prince of Wales Stadium for Sports day & Year 6 athletics

Regular Sports Clubs (before or after school)

Autumn Term

Fencing for Year 6; Rugby, Hockey, Running Club for Prep, Football club for Pre-Prep and Kindergarten, Jolly Hockey Tots for Year 1 and 2, Ballet for Kindergarten and Reception.

Spring Term

Fencing for Year 6; Netball, Football & Running Club for Prep, Football club for Pre-Prep and Kindergarten, Ballet for Kindergarten and Reception.

Summer Term

Cricket, Rounders, Running and Athletics Club (for the District team) for Prep, Football club for Pre-Prep and Kindergarten, Ballet for Kindergarten and Reception, Drama

Matches (Prep Only)

Regular friendly matches are run in all the major sports of rugby, hockey, football, netball, rounders and cricket for Years 3-6 in the appropriate terms.

Miss Walter and Mr McCreanor will make fixtures a term in advance and the list of fixtures for the term will be printed in the School calendar, newsletter and on the sports notice boards. For home matches there will also be liaison with ground staff at the Victoria Ground and Newlands and the catering staff.

Match arrangements

These are sent home by email and put up on the sports notice boards a few days in advance of the match. There is also a copy for the office.

Match Cancellation

Should a match have to be cancelled the office staff will send a Clarion text message to all the parents of the children involved. The office staff will try and send out a text message as soon as they are notified of a cancellation, but please be aware that this may be sent very close to the start of a match.

Match Transport

Most of our matches have to be played away so the School mini buses are usually used. On occasions, when numbers are too great it is necessary to hire a coach.

Match Refreshments

Match refreshments need to be ordered a week in advance on the appropriate requisition sheet.

Match Reports

After a match a report is given in assembly by the member of staff umpiring/refereeing that game. A written report is given to the office for the newsletter.

Match Commitment and Expectations

Pupils are expected to commit themselves to matches and they should be proud to represent their school at these times. Occasional outside or other School commitments are accepted as inevitable but it is expected that the pupils will give the PE staff as much notice as possible if they are unable to play.

Whilst representing the School pupils should be courteous and polite at all times, with exemplary behaviour. They should be turned out immaculately with the correct kit for the match being played and during the match show respect to the opposition whilst displaying good sportsmanship.

Sport Inclusion Policy (Prep)

Aim

It is our policy that by the end of Year 6 all children will have had the experience of playing in a team whilst at Berkhamstead. It is quite possible, however, that even by the end of Year 4 all children will have had the opportunity of playing for the school.

Procedure

We operate an inclusive policy and always try to have as many children as possible playing in matches each week. However we are often at the mercy of factors such as logistics of competing schools, facilities and transport arrangements. Some children do not necessarily possess the skills required for the competitive games so there is a safety issue here and we must also guard against damaging a child's self-esteem. Every endeavour is made to get B team matches if this is feasible. Team selection is left to the professional judgement of the experienced sports staff. There are further opportunities, however, in inter-house matches for everyone to hone their competitive skills and most games sessions will finish with a competitive element. There is of course the School Swimming Gala, Sports Day and other sporting opportunities for all children.

There are differences in how the girls' and boys' teams are organised:

Girls

Teams are run in each age group, Year 3 make up the U8 team, Year 4 the U9 team, Year 5 the U10 team and Year 6 the U11 team. There is normally only 1 team at each age group (with as many girls swapping in as possible) but in years when there are a large number of girls a 'B' team is run whenever possible and other matches are made in order that everyone has played in a match.

Boys

There is an U11A and B team, which are chosen from Years 5 and 6 (the strongest boys regardless of age will be in the A team and the other boys will make up the B team, with as many boys swapping in as possible). The U9 team is chosen from boys in Year 4, however, boys who show potential from Year 3 may play in the under 9's. The U8 team is chosen from Year 3 but there are some tag rugby matches where Year 3 and 4 are combined. No boy will play in a rugby match unless it is deemed safe by the Head of Rugby for him to do so. Please note we do not operate Under 8 cricket teams.

School Colours

School colours can be gained in: Athletics, Cross Country, Cricket, Football, Gymnastics, Hockey, Netball, Rounders, Rugby and Swimming.

These are usually awarded to everyone in the team who has played on a regular basis. For pupils with outstanding ability in any of these sports a further metal badge can be awarded. Very few of these are given out.

Tournaments

In addition we complete in tournaments throughout the year, for example, at Dean Close, St Edward's or Richard Pate.

House Competitions

These are run in all the main sports of rugby, hockey, football, netball, cricket, rounders and cross country.

In addition there is the School swimming gala and sports day in which the children work towards gaining points for their houses.