



# BERKHAMPSTEAD SCHOOL

## Sporting Inclusion Policy (Prep)

### **Aim**

It is our policy that by the end of Year 6, all children will have 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 are normally only 2 teams at each age group (with as many girls swapping in as possible) but in years where there are a large number of girls a "C" team is run whenever possible and other matches are made in order that everyone has played in a match. No girl will play hockey matches unless it is deemed safe by the Head of Girls Games for her to do so.

### **Boys**

There is an U11 A and B team, which are chosen from Years 5 and 6 (the strongest boys regarding 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 U9'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 U8 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 Cheltenham College, St Edward's or Richard Pate.

### **House Competitions**

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