

PREPARATORY SCHOOL COLOURS POLICY

1. Aim

Colours are awarded for excellence in four areas:

- Academic
- Performing Arts
- Visual Arts
- Sport

Recipients are agreed by a consensus of the child's teaching staff and SLT.

For **academic colours**, awards are made for excellence in all of the following criteria:

- Attitude to learning
- Attainment
- Enthusiasm for academia

For **sports colours**, awards are made for excellence in all of the following criteria:

- Outstanding ability and performance in a particular sport.
- Outstanding attitude to training
- Exemplary team spirit and sportsmanship

Please see note on long term contribution in 'Half Colours' section.

For **performing arts** colours:

Awards are made for all-round excellence. Candidates are required to achieve two or more of the following criteria:

- Outstanding participation, ability and progress in two or more of the Performing Arts disciplines in curriculum time.
- Outstanding participation, ability and progress in two or more of the Performing Arts disciplines in extra curriculum time.
- Outstanding attitude and willingness to contribute to the wider life of the Performing Arts Department.
- Outstanding focus and a fine example to their peers in both curriculum and extra curriculum time.

In exceptional circumstances whereby excellent attainment in one discipline has been acknowledged by an external body, colours may also be awarded.

For **visual arts** colours, awards are made for excellence in all of the following criteria:

- Outstanding quality of work in a number of disciplines, which may include drawing, painting, sculpture, printmaking, textiles, ceramics and animation.
- Outstanding focus in lessons, commitment to tasks and engagement in learning.
- Outstanding attitude and willingness to contribute to the wider life of the Visual Arts Department.

2. Levels of award and their visual manifestation

Intermediate School Colours will be awarded to Years 5 and 6 and Senior School Colours to Years 7 and 8.

Half-colours

At both age levels, awards are normally be made in two stages. Initially, half-colours are awarded, for which, in the case of academic and cultural awards, the children are presented with an enamel badge embossed with the words 'half-colours'. (Awards for sport are organized slightly differently and are outlined later on in this policy.) Where there has been exceptional performance a child may 'jump' straight to full colours. This typically happens when a child was not awarded his or her half colours in the lower year, but performed exceptionally the following year. In sport a child in Year 6 and 8 may be awarded half colours for long term contribution to the team, even if they don't demonstrate outstanding ability and performance. Long term contribution would usually mean playing for the 1st / A team for a whole season in the senior year (Year 6 or 8) and at least half the season in the junior year (Year 5 or 7).

In the case of academic awards the badge has a scarlet background.

In the case of cultural awards the background is violet.

The badge is of a different shape and larger size to signify the Senior School level of the award.

Ties for full colours

Full colours can be awarded after a further period of excellence and take the form of a colours tie.

The 'Intermediate Colours Tie' is the Intermediate School Tie with the white stripe substituted by a scarlet stripe for academic colours and violet for cultural colours.

The 'Senior Colours Tie' takes the form of the Senior School Tie with the dark green stripe substituted by the appropriate colour.

3. Special case for sports colours

Colours for individual sports

Colours are awarded for individual major school sports, namely, Hockey, Rugby, Football and Cricket for boys and Netball, Hockey and Cricket for girls.

They take the form of a badge embossed with the name of the sport for which they were awarded on a light green background.

As before, the enamel badge for Seniors are larger and of a slightly different shape than that for Intermediates to indicate the difference.

Triple colour ties

Sports colours ties at Intermediate and Senior School level are awarded for winning colours in 3 major school sports at the relevant level.

The ties take the same form as the Intermediate and Senior School Ties for cultural and academic awards but with a light green stripe inserted.

Presentation of colours

The awarding of academic and cultural colours is discussed at the end of each term by Common Room so that they can be awarded at the end of term Prize Giving.

Academic colours are generally awarded in Y5, Y6 & Y7 during the Michaelmas and Trinity terms when pupils have taken internal examinations, and so judgments can be supported by examination performance. However academic colours can be awarded during the Lent Term in Y6 to pupils based on their performance in senior school examinations.

In Y8 academic colours can be awarded in any of the three terms, using relevant examination data as a base for discussion.

The awarding of sports colours is made at the end of the season for each sport.