RHODES AVENUE PRIMARY SCHOOL

Competitive Sports Policy
Autumn 2024

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Context

At Rhodes Avenue Primary School, we believe that competitive sport is a contributory factor in building confidence and character, self-esteem, shared values and sporting attainment.

At Rhodes Avenue Primary School, pupils are encouraged to take part in competitive sport. Learning how to take part in an individual or group sports, playing, enjoying and competing with an 'Olympian spirit', recognising the importance of teamwork and cooperation and being gracious in defeat and magnanimous in victory.

Competition helps prepare children for possible obstacles that they will meet throughout their life. Competitive sport by its nature has winners and losers. It is an important lesson in life to be able to manage disappointment and failure at the same time as enjoying success.

Consequently, Rhodes Avenue pupils will be provided with opportunities to discover their physical and sporting potential and they will be taught to recognise, measure and evaluate their own success. They will be able to assess their performances and articulate their progress and areas for improvement in order to achieve their personal best.

Every child will be given an opportunity for their sporting passion to be recognised and nurtured and developed.

Aims

Our competitive sports policy aims to:

- introduce the concept of competitive sport;
- foster sports-personship and team spirit;
- develop teamwork;
- recognise the role competitive sport plays in building character;
- develop the way children follow and apply rules and guidelines for different sporting activities;
- increase children's ability to use what they have learnt to improve the quality and control of their performance;
- develop an understanding in children of how to succeed in a range of physical activities and how to evaluate their own achievements;

- embed competitive sport in the school ethos and culture and involve staff, parents, children and Governors, taking opportunity to reward and celebrate achievement;

- provide all children by the end of KS2 the opportunity to take part in and/or represent the school in a competitive sporting event;

- foster meaningful links with other schools and professional sports clubs within the community;

- encourage support and pride in the whole school and celebrate each other's achievement;

- understand that the aim of Haringey Competitions is to win on behalf of the school, and that for Festival Competitions, success is achieved by competing at their personal best.

Competition

When taking on the running of a team or attending a competition, staff do so in the expectation that the experience will be a rewarding and enjoyable one and teachers and sports leaders will instil the values of good sportspersonship.

Rhodes Avenue Primary School follows *The Sainsbury's School Games Framework Competition Levels* for competitive school sport alongside *The Haringey Sports Development Trust*, which was established to advance the education of young persons at schools in the London Borough of Haringey and surrounding areas.

The Sainsbury's School Games Framework consists of four levels of activity involving:

- Regular **intra-school** competition at **Level 1**
- Regular **inter-school** competition between schools at a local level at **Level 2**
- County-Festivals of Sport at **Level 3**
- School Games National Finals with UK Wide Representation at **Level 4**

Level 1

At the beginning of KS2 (Juniors) pupils are put into houses so that that houses have a mix of abilities.

They stay in the same house for Years 3&4 and are then allocated a new house for Years 5&6.

Each half term an Intra-School Competition takes place, these sporting events provide a range of competitive activities for every child in KS2 and culminates in our Sports Day in the Summer Term.

All the points children receive in these events go towards their houses thus providing the children a sense of meaning in what they do.

Level 2

Rhodes Avenue takes part in Haringey Primary School Sports Tournaments and Festivals. The Haringey Primary Schools Tournaments are run by Haringey Sports. The children that are chosen to represent the school will compete against other Haringey Primary schools. In some sports, if the school win the tournament, the team will represent the Borough of Haringey at the London Youth Games. The Haringey Festival Tournaments are non-competitive. This still gives those children that did not make it

into the Haringey Tournament Team a chance to compete against Haringey primary schools.

Levels 3 & 4

This stage is reached by an individual or team being selected to represent the Borough from an earlier Level 2 competition within Haringey. Children are encouraged to attempt for this stage of competition through practice in school.

Selection Process

Level 1 *- Intra -School Competition*

All children in the school will take part in the Level 1 - Intra-School competitions.

Level 2 *- Inter-School Competition*

Trials will take place during the school day throughout the year for all sports and will give every Junior child the opportunity to try out for the team. When possible, two weeks' notice will be given to the children and parents regarding trials and prior training provided during PE lessons. Trials will be notified through Group Call, the school website.

Trials are organised by specialist coaches. Team/individual selection is never an easy decision. Factors taken into consideration when selecting a team or individual include: ability, fitness, attitude and attendance. We also have to consider the level of the competition that the team will be facing and select children accordingly to avoid potential upset/distress.

If your child is absent on a trial day it may be possible for your child to try-out at a separate time if time and staff is available; however this is not guaranteed. If a child attends an After School Sports Club, this does not guarantee that a child will be chosen to represent the school as this could exclude other children who might be unable to attend the club for a number of reasons.

The results of the selection process will be displayed on the Sports Noticeboard, which is found in the KS2 building by the Year 6 staircase. It is important that children who are selected display appropriate behaviour once selected and take into consideration their peers who have not at this stage been chosen. If children request, feedback will be provided to children who are not successful to help them improve for any future trial.

Level 3/4 *- Inter-Borough Competition*

Winning teams/athletes are selected from whole Borough competitions to represent Haringey in the London Youth Games. This is chosen by Haringey representatives and not chosen by the school.

Year Group Specific Competitions

When a competition specifies an age group, children will be selected from that year group.

Teams A/B/C

As part of *The Sainsbury's School Games Frameworks*, schools are encouraged to set up B and C teams. Inter School Competitions are of a highly competitive nature and we want the children who participate at this level to feel confident and proud that they are taking part. The school will always try and have the maximum number of teams in

any specific competition. We are aware that not every other school is always able to field as many teams and that staffing or transport can be in issue. Therefore, it is not always possible to field more than one team to participate and at times we will only be allowed to enter one team. A squad will be chosen from the trial and the teams will be selected from that squad. This will enable children to realise that the teams are fluid and they have the chance to compete in any of the teams entered.

Sports Day

All KS2 children take part in all eight (subject to change) events. Sports Day is a half day event that all children take part competitively in their houses (KS2) and in their classes within EYFS and KS1. All children have received training for each event prior to the day during their PE lessons. In 100m and 400m all children receive an individual time for their race. All times are recorded and compared. The children with the six - eight fastest times recorded from Years 3&4 will compete against each other and the six - eight fastest times in Years 5&6 will compete against each other in both the 100m and 400m final. It can be that your child may win their heat but record a slower time than another heat and therefore not make the final. All children compete in a 100m relay with Years 3-6 competing in their houses.

Maximum Representation

All children's attendance at competitions will be monitored. Clearly it is important that children's attainment does not fall and academic standards are not compromised. No child will compete in more than 5 (out of a possible 15) different sports throughout the year. If a child's attendance or behaviour falls below the high expectation of all pupils, this will be taken into account during selection process and at times will not be able to represent Rhodes Avenue Primary School at Level 2 and above. The Head Teacher has the right to decide any final decision made regarding participation of pupils to represent the school.

Sports Ambassadors

Two children are chosen from Year 6 to be the Sports Ambassadors each year. The role is an open application and is awarded to children who display a passion for sport and leadership in school. The role is to help support increased participation and to promote Physical Education and school sport. They will promote positive sporting values and will act as role models to all children in school. They are invited to School Council meetings to help support any issues that may arise in school regarding sport.

All Year 6 children are welcome to apply to the media team or positions of Sports Ambassadors. Children are required to write a short piece of writing at the beginning of Year 6, stating why they would like to be chosen. All entries are processed by the Physical Education Subject Leaders, Specialist Coaching staff and classteachers who will then select the children who have shown most passion for the role.

Transport

Most competitions require children to be driven to the venue in the Borough.

Transport is provided by staff on the school mini bus. When extra spaces are required, parents may be requested to support. All parents providing transport will have been DBS checked, sports trips are risk assessed, vehicles are visually inspected and driving documents – driving licence and car insurance - are examined.

Communication

The Sports Newsletter will be posted on the Rhodes Avenue Primary School website and the Headteacher’s Newsletter. The Sports Newsletter will be posted once a term.

Parents and children will be encouraged to communicate with the Working Party and Headteacher. Parents and carers may of course speak to a member of staff if they have any concerns about their child's participation in a competition.

Links to other policies

- Foundation Subjects
- Equalities
- Administration of Medicines

Equalities

Rhodes Avenue will ensure that it complies with its duties under the *Equality Act 2010* and have due regard to the need to eliminate discrimination, harassment, victimisation and any other conduct that is prohibited by or under the abovementioned Act.

Complaints

Any complaints about the application or operation of this Policy will be dealt with in accordance with the School's Complaint's Policy which can be downloaded from the school's website or hard copies can be collected from the school office.

Procedures for policy monitoring and dissemination

This document will be reviewed according to the school's policy schedule. Copies are available to download from the website and hard copies are available from the school office on request.

Persons responsible:

Headteacher
Physical Education Subject Leaders