



Cottesmore St Mary Catholic Primary School Selection Policy



'Mane nobiscum Domine'
(Abide with us O Lord)

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Key Governor responsible for PE:

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Our Mission

*As a community of life-long learners,
with Christ at the centre,
we strive to do our best and make a difference to the world.*

*Dare to dream and always have hope,
revealing Jesus to others through the choices we make,
while living life to the full.*

Mane nobiscum Domine - Abide with us Lord.



*Mane Nobiscum Domine - Stay with us Lord
Luke 24:29*

LOVE

BELIEVE

ACHIEVE

Philosophy

Our sports team selection policy aims to encourage students to enjoy all aspects of sport and physical activity whether it is competitive, creative or individual in nature. We endeavor, where possible, for most children, who are committed to sport or a particular sporting discipline, to represent our school in some form, at some point during their journey at Cottesmore St Mary. We play many competitive events at all levels and while we would like nothing more than to include every student who is committed to school sport, this is simply not possible all of the time. We appreciate that all children will show different ranges of interest and ability across a range of disciplines and that children will show different levels of fitness and fundamental motor skills/physical literacy. We will create opportunities for children to have experience of a range of sporting disciplines. We will encourage all children to participate and try their best at every sport that we play. We want sport at Cottesmore St Mary to be fun and, whilst often competitive, played with enjoyment as the most important factor. Children will be regularly encouraged to show the school games values: self-belief, team work, honesty, respect, passion and determination.

Selection policy

- **Intra-School Competitions**

Children in KS2 have opportunities to take part in Intra-School competitive team events that are often run alongside professional world cups/world championships. Although these events do not run annually, these events allow children in KS2 to participate in competitive games against their peers. Teams are randomly selected, with a mix of abilities and interests. All children have the opportunity to play for the same amount of time as others. Awards are often given at the end of each event to teams finishing 1st, 2nd and 3rd and also to individuals for showing signs of The School Games Values.

- **Inter-School Competitions (school vs school)**

Cottesmore St Mary sports teams regularly and successfully participate in Inter-School competitive and non-competitive events. Many of these events are organised by the Brighton and Hove P.E and School Sport team. Other events are organised by local clubs/academies within the area to encourage more participation in particular sports. Brighton and Hove Albion and Sussex County Cricket club regularly offer this opportunity. Regular league and cup fixtures, particularly for netball and football, are organised more locally within our Hove and Portslade cluster group of schools.

Most representative Inter-School teams involve children from Years 5 and 6 although occasionally teams from Years 3 and 4 may be needed for particular events.

Children are selected for these events based on assessment information that has been obtained through PE teacher and includes communication between PE Specialist teacher, PE lead and class teachers. The perspective of those who have taught the child in the focused Sport discipline is weighted significantly. Knowledge of the children's sporting abilities and sportsmanship, will also be considered alongside, information about the child's ability to play in a competitive environment, general behavior. While some children may have the sporting ability required for team selection, this can only be assessed if they demonstrate their skills during lessons or trials. If a child's behaviour or inability to follow instructions prevents staff from accurately assessing their ability, they may not be selected for the team.

There are some occasions when children will partake in a specific training session, prior to the event, to determine which players will be selected. Parents and careers will be informed via School Ping prior to this taking place. Children selected for a match or team, **will not** be spoken to by the PE team during the school day. Parents will be informed via School Ping.

It is essential that children are prepared for competitive events, based on their individual abilities. This readiness not only ensures their safety but also enhances their enjoyment and potential for success in the sport. Moreover, when children compete according to their sporting ability, they are more likely to experience a sense of accomplishment and personal growth, setting a foundation for lifelong healthy habits and a positive attitude towards challenges.

We understand how disappointing it can be not to be chosen for an event, which is why we offer opportunities for children to participate in intra-school sporting events. While we regularly field A and B teams, we also seek opportunities for children to play in friendly matches against other schools, such as C or D team matches that do not include the most experienced players. This allows as many of our children as possible to compete. However, this depends on the cooperation of other schools. Ultimately, we will select the most skilled teams for main competitions.

At the start of every year, parents are invited to share children's sporting successes out of school and list clubs that they may attend. Whilst this will not form part of the selection process, it helps us to get a deeper knowledge of individual passions.

The following information is provided by The School Games to support school in selecting children for specific events

Pathway events (Experienced children in a particular sport are selected)

Competitions where the children selected are those who have been working in PE lessons or at after school clubs to develop their skills and understanding in this particular sport/activity. Some of these children might also play / represent a club or academy in this discipline outside of school. They have been selected to attend and understand that this a competitive competition which is run with the 'spirit of the school games programme'. The winning team will progress through to area and/or Sussex finals. There will be results and overall winners.

Festival events (non-competitive events for all children)

Festivals are purely about participation. The ideal participants for these activities would be those who may be new to the activity/ sport or those who have no experience. School are encouraged to bring along a targeted group that have been involved in some intervention work, pupils with SEND or a group that have never represented their school before. These are fun and inspirational events for young people to try something new and develop their physical literacy skills through sport and physical activity. These events aim to inspire the young people to join a club back at school or a local community club or to enthuse children. There are no overall winners or a pathway to other events.

The focus of Brighton and Hove's School Games is to encourage more children to partake in a range of different sporting activities. Prior to the event, children will spend a PE session looking carefully at the rules of the game, before being selected for the event. Spaces at such events are limited and children will be selected on interest and performance during the taster session. There are numerous sporting festivals throughout the year and as a school, will make it a priority to ensure that as many

children can be selected for these events as possible. For some children Festival events lead onto them exploring the discipline with more interest, in and out of school, this can also lead to the children gaining experience and being considered for the competitive events in the future.

Selection for team events is based on:

- Performance, effort and behaviour in P.E lessons, practice/trial sessions and clubs
- Level of skills demonstrated
- Commitment and enthusiasm to training and learning that particular sport
- Level of fitness
- Understanding of games, tactics, rules and decision making
- Ability to show the school games values, particularly good sporting behaviour and adherence to fair play
- Attitude around the school
- Understanding the importance of safety

For individual competitions such as: Swimming, Cross Country and Athletics, children will be selected based on results/times and distances, as well as the above criteria.

Children may be selected to play up a year if gifted in that particular sport.

Taking part in different sports events, both as a team and an individual, contribute to each child's personal development and self-esteem. All of our teams play to win but not at any cost. It is important to compete/play in the right spirit, showing the school games values and in a supportive atmosphere.

Sports Leaders and Sports Captains:

Sports Leaders and Sports Captains are a group of children that show great enthusiasm and dedication in all aspects of sport. Their role is to develop sport within our school and inspire as many children as possible to engage in physical activity through fun, friendly and competitive competitions.

The role of a Sports Leader:

- Encourage all children to get involved in sport
- Create new ideas to develop sport within our school
- Show sports leadership qualities such as team work, good listening skills, fair play and respect
- Follow and encourage others to live by The School Games Values

The role of a Sports Captain:

- Lead their team in training for and participating in events.
- Encouraging all children to try the sport that they are so passionate about.
- Show captaincy qualities at all times, including sportsmanship, fair play, encouragement, team work, good listening skills and determination.

Sports Leader roles can be applied for by all children in Key Stage 2 (Year 3-6).

Sports Captain roles are decided by the PE team. The decision will be based upon the children's dedication or skill set with Sport, wither a specific sport or an all-round attitude to Physical activity. Captaincy qualities regularly shown in the past will also be taken in to account when considering who is chosen for these roles.

The role of parents and families:

If your child is chosen to represent the school, please help them to understand that this is a privilege and that their selection should never be taken for granted. Remind them that they have been chosen based on their skillset but also their attitude towards sport and adherence to fair play. It is an expectation that children maintain this in the lead up to an event and for any future events if they would like to be considered again. They should be very proud of their achievements but must also understand the feelings of those that have not been selected this time.

If your child is not chosen, please congratulate them for trying their best and having a go. Help them to understand that not everyone can be chosen but to keep trying for future events. If they continue to work hard, practice and learn from previous experiences, this will make them stronger when competing for future events. Encourage them to feel happy for their friends and wish them good luck for their upcoming event. We encourage children to congratulate others on their selection, even if disappointed themselves.

Code of Conduct

It is expected that all children representing the school or class in intra or inter school competition adhere to the code of conduct:

Fair play

Winning is without value if victory has been achieved unfairly or dishonestly. Playing fair requires courage and character and is much more satisfying. Fair play always has its reward, even when the game is lost. Playing fair earns you respect from team mates and opposing teams.

Observe the laws of the game

All games need rules to guide them. Make an effort to learn the rules so that you understand the game better. This will make you a better player. By sticking to the rules of the game, you will enjoy it more.

Respect opponents, team mates, referees, officials and spectators

Fair play means respect. Without opponents there can be no game. They have the same rights you have, including the right to be respected. Your team mates are your colleagues. You form a team in

which all members are equal. Referees, umpires and match officials are there to maintain discipline. Always accept their decisions respectfully without arguing and help them to help you enjoy the game more. Spectators give the game atmosphere. They want to see the game played fairly but must also behave fairly themselves. Spectators should also applaud the efforts of both teams.

Accept defeat with dignity

Nobody wins all the time. Learn to lose graciously. Don't seek excuses for defeat. Genuine reasons will always be self-evident. Congratulate the winners with good grace. Don't blame your team mates, the referee or anyone else. Show determination to do better next time. Good losers earn far more respect than bad winners.

Retain the sense of community

We are all part of the Cottesmore St Mary family. We should all be very proud to have many sporting talents within our school, in many different areas and should always be happy to share the success that we achieve together. We expect this policy to be followed by those who are chosen. Failure to do so, will result in discussions with the child and parents/carers in order to rectify the situation.

Kit collection

For all sporting events, children can attend school in their school uniform and change into their school PE kit. For events such as football and netball, in which a Cottesmore kit is provided, parents/carers will be asked to collect and sign for the kit from the school office. There will be a charge if any sporting kit is not returned.

Queries and Further Information

If you have any questions about this policy or would like to discuss a team selection, please do not hesitate to contact our PE Lead, Miss Price, at maddieprice@cottesmore.brighton-hove.sch.uk. We are happy to explain the selection process and answer any queries you may have.

We value positive communication between school and home and are committed to ensuring that team selections are made fairly, consistently and in the best interests of all pupils.

Declaration for parents transporting pupils during school hours (other than their own children)



To be completed by the parent annually

I have no endorsements or points on my licence/*have declared any points on my licence and the reasons for accruing them (delete as applicable).

My car carries current insurance, which is renewed annually, and I have checked with my insurance company that my insurance covers transporting young people on a voluntary basis.

The road fund licence (car tax) is current and always renewed.

The vehicle is regularly serviced, kept in safe running condition and has a valid MOT certificate.

I am aware that overloading the vehicle could invalidate its insurance.

All passengers will have and use a seat belt and no child should be transported in the front passenger seat, with the exception of the driver's own child at their discretion.

I am aware that any formal payment for petrol or mileage cost would invalidate my insurance unless it had been previously declared to the insurance company (remuneration would be construed as being for "hire or reward" - a separate insurance classification).

I have a minimum two years' driving experience.

I understand the Council's policy that use of any mobile phone (hand-held AND hands-free) is prohibited whilst driving.

I understand that I must meet the requirements set out in the above statement.
I will inform the school should there be any changes to the information given above e.g. points on licence.

***Additional information**

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NAME

SIGNED

DATE

To be completed by the school

(optional)Enhanced DBS with Barred List check completed and satisfactory
Form approved

Note: parents must have given permission for their child to travel in a staff car or another parent's car for a school organised event.

Car seat and seat belt clarification

In cars

Car seats

All pupils must use a correct car seat if travelling by car until age 12 or 135 cm tall, whichever comes first. An adult seat belt without a car seat may only be used if (i) the journey is unexpected, short and necessary (ii) the car is a taxi or (iii) other car seats make it impossible to fit.

Car seat regulations

Current car seat regulations only approve backless booster seats for children taller than 125 cm and weighing more than 22 kg. Even though this means you can still use an old (backless or low backed) booster seat without breaking any rules, it's strongly recommended that you use a high-backed booster seat, which offers more protection in a side impact crash situation.

Seat belts

All adults and pupils must always wear a seat belt, unless excluded on medical grounds (in which case they must carry a Certificate of Exemption from Compulsory Seat Belt Wearing).

In minibuses, coaches and buses

Car seats

It's not a legal requirement to use car seats in minibuses, coaches and buses but if provided, and fit safely, you must use them. If not, you have to provide your own if you want to make sure pupils have them. Note - car seats are often unsuitable for use on narrow seats in minibuses and should only be used if they fit safely and securely. Where they are unsuitable or unavailable, pupils must wear adult seat belts, but for those less than 135 cm tall, these will not fit correctly and puts them at greater risk of injury.

Sea belts

If travelling on a minibus, adults and pupils must always wear a seat belt (or child restraint) if fitted. For buses and coaches, adults and pupils over 14 must always wear a seat belt if one is fitted. Pupils under 14 aren't required to wear a seat belt by law but it is strongly recommended they do so.

School Sports Transport Permission Form

Childs Name: _____

Class/Year: _____

Dear Parent/Guardian,

From time to time, it may be necessary for students to travel to and from sporting events with another parent/guardian. To ensure the safety and wellbeing of your child, we require your permission for your child to be transported by another parent/guardian in these circumstances.

Please complete the section below and return it to the school.

Parent/Guardian Consent

I give permission for my child _____
to travel to and from sporting events with another parent/guardian as arranged by the school.

Parents providing lifts are: _____

- I understand that the school will take reasonable steps to ensure that any transport arrangements are safe.
- I acknowledge that other parents/guardians providing transport are not acting as employees of the school.
- I agree that I am responsible for ensuring my child's safety seat requirements (if applicable) are communicated to the transporting parent.

Parent/Guardian Name: _____

Signature: _____

Date: _____

Emergency Contact Number: _____

Sporting Events 2025-2026

25th September	Albion cup – Boys	Boys - A Team – Year 6	Pathway
1st October	Hove Rugby Club – Rugby Festival	Girls rugby festival – Year 6	Festival
2nd October	Football Festival – Girls	Girls football festival – Year 3/4	Festival
9th October	Albion cup – Girls	Girls - A Team – Year 6	Pathway
16th October	ESFA Big Schools Tournament	A team girls	Pathway
21st October	B Team Football Tournament	B team football tournament - Boys	Pathway
23rd October	Albion cup cross curricular cup	Boys – A Team	Pathway
11th November	Basketball comp	A and B - mixed Year 5/6	Pathway
12th November	Cross country	Y4-6 10 Boys 10 Girls	Pathway
20th January	ESFA football county finals	Boys – A Team	Pathway
29th January	Indoor Athletics	Year 5/6 Boys and Girls	Pathway
11th February	Tag Rugby Festival	Girls Year 4-6	Festival
24th February	Girls indoor cricket	Year 5/6 Girls	Pathway
2 nd March	Dodgeball competition	Year 6 Mixed	Pathway
3rd March	Indoor cricket	Year 6 Boys	Pathway
4th March	Swimming gala	Year 4-6	Pathway
6th March	multi skills festival	Year 3-4	Festival
10 th March	Tennis competition	Year 3-4	Pathway
13th March	Girls football tournament	Year 5/6	Pathway
25 th March	Basketball Competition	Year 5	Pathway
25th March	Netball tournament	Year 5/6	Pathway
23rd April	Schools cricket day	Year 5/6	Festival
29 th April	Indoor athletics finals	Year 6	Pathway
5 th May	Tennis Competition	Year 6	Pathway
15 th May	Cricket Event – Lancing Prep	Year 5	Festival
2 nd June	Tennis Competition	Year 4	Pathway
3 rd June	Schools Cricket Day	Year 3	Festival

4 th June	Dodgeball finals day	Year 6	Pathway
8 th June	Outdoor Cricket	Year 6 – Girls	Festival
9 th June	Girls Football Tournament	Year 6 – Girls	Pathway
11 th June	Tennis Competition	Year 5	Pathway
15 th June	Cricket Competition	Year 5/6 Boys	Pathway
18 th June	Withdean Athletics	Year 4 – 6	Pathway
19 th June	Football Tournament	Year 5 – 6	Festival
22 nd June	Cricket Tournament	Year 4	Festival
26 th June	Football Tournament	Girls	Festival
1 st July	Swimming Gala	Years 4-6	Festival

In addition to the above events, Mr Buggy also organises friendly football matches for both boys and girls in Years 3, 4, 5 and 6 during the Summer Term. The dates change on a year to year basis when both schools arrange and play these matches, providing pupils with further opportunities to enjoy competitive sport, develop teamwork skills and represent their school in a friendly environment.

Sporting Events 2024-2025

Event	Date	Venue and time	Number of children attending the event
Rugby union festival	October	Hove Rugby Club Shirley Drive Hove	Each school can bring 1 team of 12 girls from year 5 & 6
Albion Cup	October	Lancing	U11 – Year 5/6 Mixed
Albion Cup	October	Lancing	U11 – Year 5/6 Girls
Hockey	October	Blatchington Mill	Year 5 & 6 Mixed 10 children: 5 Girls and 5 boys
Albion Cup – Finals	November	Lancing	U11 – Year 5/6 Boys
Albion Cup – Finals	November	Lancing	U11 – Year 5/6 Girls
ESFA small schools boys football event	November	Brighton University Falmer Campus	12 children Year 5/6
Netball festival	November	University of Brighton Sports Centre	Year 5 & 6 mixed Up to 10 students- 5 Girls/ 5 Boys

Cross country	November	Waterhall	Each school can bring up to 10 students for each race: 1) Year 5 Boys = 10 students 2) Year 5 Girls = 10 students 3) Year 6 Boys = 10 students 4) Year 6 Girls = 10 students Total maximum runners per school = 40 Year 4's can run if the school is confident they can complete the course.
Basketball festival	December	Dorothy Stringer High School	You can bring 10 children from the school: 5 boys 5 girls
Indoor athletics	January	BACA	All athletes are to be selected from Year 5 and/or 6. Each athlete may compete in a maximum of two track and two field events. Each team should consist of a minimum of 9 girls and 9 boys with a maximum of 12 girl and 12 boy athletes being permitted.
Cricket Festival	Jan	BACA	Year ¾ 10 chn
Cricket Festival	February	BACA	Year 5/6 boys 10 chn
Stinger netball	February a	Patcham High	Year 5 & 6 mixed or single sex teams. Squad of 8. Only two boys are allowed on the court at the same time with a maximum of three boys in the squad. Five members of the squad are allowed on the court at any one time. School Staff member to manage the squad rotation and will be asked to hand in rotation at beginning of tournament.
Cricket Festival	March	BACA	Year 5/6 girls 10 chn
Swimming Gala	March	Prince Regent	30 children from Year 4/5/6 Mixed
Albion Cup	March	Lancing	U9 – Year 3/4 Mixed
Let's Dance	March	Brighton dome	Year group?
Albion Cup	March	Lancing	U9 – Year 3/4 Girls
Albion Cup – Finals	April	Lancing	U9 – Year 3/4 Boys
Albion Cup – Finals	May	Lancing	U9 – Year 3/4 Girls
Tag Rugby Year 3/4	May	Brighton University Falmer Campus	Each school can bring 1 team of bring 12 students from year 3 & 4 mixed: 6 boys 6 Girls Minimum of 4 boys and 4 girls in a squad as the fun matches are 8 aside with 4 girls and 4 boys playing.
Tri golf	May	Blatchington Mill	Year 3 & 4. Teams of Ten. Five girls and Five boys.
Cricket	May	Preston Park	10 children mixed from Year 3/4
Cricket – Festival KS1	May	Preston Park	Year 2
Cricket	May	Preston Park	Year 5/6 girls
Cricket	May	Preston Park	Year 5/6 boys
Tag Rugby Year 5/6	May	Brighton University	Each school can bring 1 team of bring 12 students from year 5 & 6 mixed: 6 boys 6

			Girls Minimum of 4 boys and 4 girls in a squad as the fun matches are 8 aside with 4 girls and 4 boys playing.
Racket festival	June	Withdean Stadium	Year 3 & 4 Mixed 6 Girls and 6 Boy
Athletics	June	Withdean Stadium	You have a Year 4, 5 and 6 team boys and girls. Please let me know if you have a year group that won't be attending due to school trips / residential etc... Children may take part in one track event, one field event plus one relay. 600m is an open event and any 2 runners can be selected from any year group. You can bring a Year 4 team, a Year 5 team and a Year 6 team. Year 4 Girls Min 6 – Max 10 Year 4 Boys Min 6 – Max 10 Year 5 Girls Min 6 – Max 10 Year 5 Boys Min 6 – Max 10 Year 6 Girls Min 6 – Max 10 Year 6 Boys Min 6 – Max 10
Cricket	June	Preston Park	Year 5/6 10 children
Swimming	July	Prince Regent Swimming Complex Church Road Brighton	Year 4, 5 and 6 Girls and Boys. This event is an inclusive swimming gala – as we are trying to give more young people the opportunity to be involved and represent their school at swimming. All of the children of course need to be able to swim 25m. But this event has no diving starts and all events are over 25m.
Cricket – Finals	July	Blackstone County Cricket ground	Year 3/4