

Autumn Term – Y5-8 Games and PE Information

Philosophy

Through Sport at Bedford School, it is our aim to promote physical activity, provide opportunity and encourage participation and competition both in the individual and team context. We are not results driven; we realise winning is enjoyable but feel that just as much is learned in defeat. We want our boys to win and lose with grace. We will ensure boys are aware of the benefits of a healthy lifestyle, and that they develop personal and social skills, which will support their sporting development and assist their success in other areas of education and beyond. Having been given access to a wide range of physical activities, the boys will be equipped and motivated to continue their sporting participation on leaving school.

Sports Commitments

PE

In Years 5-8, boys will have 1 period of PE a week. They are divided into 2 groups (A & B Group) depending on their individual swimming ability. Group A will swim for the first half of term and Group B will do PE. After that the groups swap to ensure all boys cover the same curriculum.

Games

Y5-8 boys will have Games on two afternoons. Wednesday afternoon is a full sporting afternoon for all boys; Y7&8 also have a double period on Monday afternoon and Y5&6 have a double period on Friday afternoon.

On Wednesdays only, boys are allowed to come to school in their games kit for the whole day and they should wear a full tracksuit.

During their Games session, their tracksuit (and a dry top) should be zipped up in their games bag so that they have something dry to put on to go home.

Boys are assessed and then selected to train and play rugby for a team appropriate to their ability/experience, giving them a safe environment in which to develop new skills and confidence. Coaches liaise frequently with each other to ensure that those who have progressed are given opportunities to join a more able/experienced group.

Y5-8 - All boys will do rugby in their double Games lesson on Mon/Fri.

Those who are selected for teams A-D will do rugby on Wednesday afternoon.

Y5-8 Boys in teams below A-D will take part in a carousel of sporting activities on a Wednesday afternoon.

There will be some School fixtures for all teams (including E and F) on a Saturday afternoon and if selected, boys are expected to play.

Fixtures

Team Selection

The member of staff who is responsible for each team will select the team on merit according to performance, attitude and ability demonstrated in training sessions at school, as well as in previous matches. We realise that this can seem a subjective process, but our coaches take the role seriously and aim to be as fair as possible. Coaches will liaise with each other to ensure movement between groups as appropriate. As a result, boys may move up and down, and whilst we are aware that this can be sensitive, we aim to do this as thoughtfully as possible, and will give boys reasons and areas to work on. If there is a problem, we encourage you to raise the concern with the coach of your son's team, or the Head of Games, Mr Phillips. Miss Goodman, as Assistant Head with responsibility for our Extra-Curricular programme, would be happy to listen to thoughts on how to improve our provision.

Team and fixture information

All team and fixture information will be available from the School Sports Website which can be accessed via the Prep School Home page - <http://www.bedfordprepsport.org.uk/>

Parents will receive an email before the fixture to notify you of your son's selection.

Team Expectations

If selected to play for any school team, we expect our boys to be available (including on a Saturday) and give their best effort. We aim to give as many boys as possible an opportunity to play for a School team. We anticipate any player who represents the School at any sport will feel a sense of pride. All players should be aware of their responsibilities to the School. They should therefore:

- check the term's calendar for likely teams' matches (permission should be sought from the Headmaster if a boy is to miss a fixture for personal reasons)
- dress smartly in appropriate School sports kit for matches and practices
- behave sensibly in transit to and from away matches and with due decorum at all times during the visit
- adhere to deadlines for practices and matches
- respect the opposition and officials
- show due consideration for others - both as spectators and as participants
- behave responsibly on the field of play
- support and encourage teammates
- always present a positive image
- be available for all fixtures including on Saturday afternoons

Travel Information

For all away fixtures this will be available on the team sheet on the School Sports Website (see above). Regular updates, where possible, in the event of delays will be available via twitter@TravelBps <https://twitter.com/TravelBps> to keep you informed of arrival times. Boys in teams returning after 17.45 must be collected from the main gates on Burnaby Road.

Sports Clubs

There are a range of sports clubs available to all boys before school, during lunch times and after school to complement and support the boys' Games and PE programme, and to enable them to further develop their skills. Due to staff and space restrictions, attendance at some clubs will be by selection and this is indicated on the Activities programme timetable which will be available in September on Firefly.

PE and Games Kit [Please label clearly]

PE

House t-shirt, white shorts, white (plain) sports socks, non-marking trainers, PE bag

Swimming

Navy swim shorts or jammers, School swim bag, towel, flip-flops/sliders, goggles (optional)

Rugby

School tracksuit, School blue/white reversible rugby shirt, School navy shorts, navy games socks, boots with safety studs/moulded studs, outdoor trainers, mouth guard (essential), School sports bag

Optional:

School hoodie; navy blue under/cycle shorts; navy blue base layer; headgear; shoulder pads; shin pads