

Award of School Colours Policy

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1 Policy Aims

Colours are a highly prized public recognition of both a pupil's excellence and commitment to an activity at Yateley Manor School. They are traditionally a sporting honour, and in the past, it has proved difficult to judge them in equivalence with other activities such as the performing arts.

The school does its best to find relevant equivalent rewards. The nature of these awards has changed over time, and they will no doubt change again in the future as the school's direction and aims also change. However, the principles should not change.

Yateley Manor School will award colours in Sport, Cultural colours for performance (music and performing arts) and Cerebral activities (debating and chess).

2 Nomination Process and Award of Colours

2.1 Nominations

All nominees for either Full or Half Colours **must** have demonstrated the following criteria:

- A sense of sportsmanship.
- Reliability and commitment.
- A cooperative and collaborative attitude towards staff and peers.
- A record of loyalty and service to the school.

Pupils should not be made to feel that they can earn colours at any level simply by playing in a particular number of fixtures, having performed at concerts, or having taken part in a play; their contribution must be more significant than simply that.

2.2 Process

- Candidates for Colours are nominated at the discretion of staff members.
- Members of staff will usually observe the criteria set out below but can make a case for not doing so. Any nominations for School Colours must be directed to the relevant Head of Department.
- Nominations should be discussed within the subject department and if supported, put forward to the Colours Committee.
- The Colours Committee, made up of all Department Heads and members of SLT (with exception of the Headmaster) will finalise the list of nominees before submitting to the Headmaster.
- All School Colours will be awarded by the Headmaster, upon agreement with the nominations of the Colours Committee.
- All awards (Full Colours, Half Colours and Commendations) will include a signed certificate signed by the Headmaster and countersigned by the relevant Head of Department or Teacher in Charge of the activity.

- Full Colours and Half Colours will be presented at the end-of-term awards assembly. Ties are awarded for Full Colours & badges for Half Colours.

3 Additional Considerations

Exceptionally, Colours may be awarded to pupils in year groups outside those specified in the table above, for example, for where a pupil has excelled at a particular activity and demonstrated all the generic criteria, or it may be that the pupil has excelled at national or international level.

4 School Colours Criteria

	Sport	Cultural/Cerebral Subjects
	<p>The recipients of Colours must have demonstrated these qualities in addition to meeting the requirements set out in the below.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A sense of sportsmanship (for sports full and half colours). • Reliability and commitment. • A cooperative and collaborative attitude towards staff and peers. • A record of loyalty and service to the school. 	
School Half Colours (Awarded usually in Year 6 or Year 8 if criteria met)	Consistently good if not excellent performances in an individual or sport team for one season.	Consistently good if not excellent performances in a school group/ensemble/performance and a strong commitment to practice and rehearsal over the school year.
	Pupils can receive full colours early for outstanding achievement.	
School Colours (awarded only if criteria met)	<p>Performance to a very high standard in competitive fixtures in an individual or team sport.</p> <p>For example, the pupil may have represented their county, region, or country in their sport.</p> <p>In most cases full colours will be awarded to pupils who have maintained their performance and excellence from Year 5 in a particular sporting activity.</p>	<p>Performance to a very high standard within the context. For example, School Drama, Musical performance.</p> <p>The pupil may have received county, regional or national recognition of their achievements.</p> <p>In most cases full colours will be awarded to pupils who have maintained their performance and excellence from Year 5 in a particular cultural/cerebral activity.</p>
	Pupils who have not gained half colours can still be awarded full colours for outstanding achievement	