John Fletcher of Madeley Primary School
Sports Team Selection Policy

2025 2026

Role of School
Our aims for PE and sport throughout the school are to:

1. encourage children to enjoy all aspects of PE and sport, whether it is competitive or creative, individual or team based. This helps them to play or participate in sports and remain active throughout their lives, which has many benefits both to their health and wellbeing as well as socially.
2. ensure that all pupils receive 2 hours per week of quality PE and sport provision as part of the curriculum and experience competitive and non-competitive sport internally, playing many matches within lessons and at sports events.

As with other curriculum areas, pupils' attainment and progress is carefully monitored to ensure that the skills of all pupils are developed appropriately. The school perceives inter-school sports as a means of extending experience for pupils that demonstrate the requisite skills and qualities in the curriculum area.

As a school we enter many matches and tournaments (both competitive and non-competitive) and all staff involved recognise the need to work towards an inclusive approach that enables as many pupils as possible to experience competitive sport, in some cases representing the school.

In some instances, depending on the competition, there will be a limited number of places available. We know that not all children can be chosen.

Selection for team events is based on:

- Performance, effort and behaviour in lessons, lunchtimes and practices
- Level of skills demonstrated

- Commitment to training and learning that sport
- Enthusiasm to learn and improve
- Understanding of games, tactics and rules
- Attitude of player on and off the field of play
- How the player presents themselves, manners, helpfulness, conduct, etc.
- Performance as a team member
- Understanding of the importance of safety
- Behaviour at lunchtime and break time

All pupils who wish to represent the school in a team event are eligible, and we try to provide opportunities for as many children where we can.

For individual competition selection, for example: cross country, swimming and athletics, the pupils attend training and trials. The pupils with the best results/times represent the school as long as they also fulfil the criteria stated previously for "team" selection.

Role of parents/carers
Taking part in different clubs/teams (inside and outside school) contributes to each child's personal development and self-esteem. This is more important than winning. All our pupils/teams play to "win" but not at any cost, it is important to compete/play in the rightspirit and in a supportive atmosphere.

Parents/carers and other spectators have a great influence on the children's enjoyment and success in sport, and can support school as follows:

- If your child is chosen/chosen regularly, please help them to understand it is a privilege to represent the school; that their selection should never be taken for granted and relies on ongoing effort from them to maintain and develop the talent they have shown; and that they should be proud of themselves and the team they are part of.

- If your child is not chosen, please congratulate them on being prepared to compete for a place and encourage them to view this as a challenge from which they can learn and improve their skills/performance if they apply effort and keep practising. Also encourage them to understand that competition for places will always make the team stronger and that pride in their peers' performance is a valued behaviour regardless of whether they are in the team or not.

Good sport is about positive attitude. You can set the right tone, and help make the game a success. Play your part - play fair!

Please note:
Where our Government Sports Premium Grant is used to support the training, transport or participation of the competition, we aim to give as many children as possible a chance to take part in competitive sports (as directed by the Government). We need to be fully inclusive and accountable for this spending; details of which are published on our school website.

Where we have extra-curricular teams outside of the Sports Premium remit, the team selection policy is followed.