Clifton High School is committed to child protection and safeguarding children and young people and expects all staff, visitors and volunteers to share this commitment.

Clifton High School aims to encourage all pupils to enjoy sport whether it is individual, team, competitive or creative. It aims to foster a level of participation and engagement in sport that will bring enjoyment throughout each pupil’s life and be of benefit health wise and socially.

Our aims are to enable pupils to develop

- A positive attitude to sport. The School wants pupils to display an enthusiasm and delight in sport to promote lifelong participation in regular activity
- High standards of skills, fitness and techniques in a variety of sports
- Socially whilst enjoying sport through
  - Cooperating and working in teams
  - Rejecting stereotypes and prejudices
  - Dealing positively with both failure and success
  - Appreciating strengths and weaknesses in themselves and others
  - Understanding sportsmanship and fair play
  - Developing leadership skills
  - Participating in sport in the community
- Emotionally through the physical challenges and to develop self-respect, self-control and self-esteem
- Intellectually through
  - Learning specialist language and technical terms
  - Developing knowledge of strategies, tactics and rules
  - Planning, evaluation and problem solving
  - Understanding and making judgements
  - Recording, timing and measuring
  - Developing healthy bodies through understanding the benefits of exercise, good nutrition and hygiene
- Safe practices by understanding the dangers inherent in sport
- Organisational ability through changing independently, learning to follow instructions and by looking after equipment properly

Selection for Team Fixtures

In line with the School aims, Clifton high School recognise the need to be inclusive but also the need to ensure safety and to avoid damage to a pupil’s self-esteem. Throughout sports lessons and club activities, members of the Physical Education Department and other teachers regularly assess pupil’s aptitude, ability, enthusiasm and conduct.
In light of this the following guidelines are applied

- Team selection is the decision of the teachers who will use their professional judgement to select the best team for each fixture
- Teachers will keep a record of their selections; these will be posted on the School Website one week before fixtures and an overall analysis of selection and results will be completed at the end of each term
- The selection of players for a team will take into account the opposition i.e. if the department know the opposition will play only their best players, Clifton High School will do the same. This ensures players are not out of their depth and pupils are much happier if a team is successful. Good results often raise spirits throughout the entire School community
- Whenever possible the School will seek A and B team fixtures to allow more pupils to participate
- Whenever possible the School will enter ‘Bottoms Up’ tournaments for those pupils not regularly in A team fixtures
- In the Junior School, the teachers commit that all pupils will represent the School at least once, in a fixture, each term
- When appropriate opportunities arise, the School will endeavour to extend selection to include all pupils
- In selecting teams, priority is given to pupils who
  - Attend club activities and practices regularly
  - Show a genuine interest and enthusiasm for the sport in matches, practices and lessons
  - Apply themselves fully and at all times in Games and PE lessons
  - Display a particular aptitude for the sport and a level of fitness and skill that will ensure they are not placed at risk in a competitive game
  - Are more practised and have demonstrated a high level of skill and effort
  - Conduct themselves in an appropriate way in a competitive situation, when visiting and travelling to and from other Schools and when hosting guest teams
- First Team squad members will sign a commitment contract to reiterate the expectations of the Physical education department for training and fixtures

Selection for Individual sports

In individual sports such as swimming and athletics, times and distances are recorded and these are used as a basis for selection but the criteria listed above also apply to the selection process.

All members of the Physical Education Department meet regularly and have the benefit of seeing every pupil in the context of a group, which places them in the best position to make selections. Great care is taken to ensure fairness and we would ask that parents respect their expertise and need to ensure fairness and the pupil’s safety.

Selection for Sports Captains

In line with our aims, the School selects Sports Captains to lead the Senior School teams and to act as a role model to all pupils taking part in sport. Throughout sports lessons and club activities, members of the Physical Education Department and other teachers regularly assess pupil’s aptitude, ability, enthusiasm and conduct. In light of this the following guidelines are applied

- Captain selection is the decision of the teachers who will use their professional judgement to select the most suitable captain for each individual sport
- Teachers will keep a record of pupils attendance, attitude and commitment to sports throughout their time at Clifton High School
- Potential First Team Sports Captains will be interviewed for the role by the Head of School Sport and Extra-Curricular, the Head of Sport (Boys), the Head of Sport (Girls) and the Assistant Head – Sixth Form