



Lancing Prep Worthing

A Lancing College Preparatory School

Prep School Policy: Selecting Pupils for One-Off Events

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As a school, we are occasionally invited to participate in a range of external competitions across academic, sporting, and creative disciplines. These opportunities allow our pupils to showcase their talents, represent the school with pride, and engage with peers from other settings in enriching and challenging environments. We view such invitations as valuable extensions of our curriculum, offering pupils the chance to deepen their learning, build confidence, and experience healthy competition beyond the classroom. However, as these events and competitions are organised by other organisations, they dictate the number of pupils that we may take and often the year group that the pupils should or must be in.

Sometimes opportunities arise within our own school, such as readers are required for a Harvest, Easter or End of Year Service in the Chapel, and only a small handful of pupils are required.

This policy outlines the principles and procedures for selecting pupils to participate in one-off enrichment events, such as science competitions, poetry recitals and chess tournaments. The aim is to ensure fairness, transparency, and alignment with the school's values of opportunity, excellence, and inclusion.

Selection Principles

Merit-Based and Inclusive: Selection is based on a combination of aptitude, interest, effort, and potential. We aim to recognise both high performers and emerging talent.

Rotation and Opportunity: Where possible, we rotate opportunities to ensure a broad range of pupils' experience enrichment beyond the classroom. We believe that every child has something to offer and we want to provide every child in our care with opportunities to shine.

Behaviour and Attitude: Pupils must demonstrate positive behaviour, commitment to learning, and respectful conduct in line with school expectations.

Representation: Pupils selected represent the school and must uphold its ethos during external events.

Event-Specific Criteria

The selection process for some academic, sporting, and creative disciplines is detailed in this policy; however, opportunities may arise that are not included in this list.

Science Events/ Competitions

Selection may be based on:

- Performance in science lessons or internal assessments.
- Pupils that have demonstrated curiosity, creativity, or problem-solving skills in science lessons.
- Participation in science clubs or enrichment activities.
- Staff may also consider pupils who would benefit from confidence-building or exposure to STEM opportunities.

Maths Events/ Competitions

Selection may include:

- Performance in maths lessons or internal assessments.
- Pupils demonstrating strong problem-solving skills, logical reasoning, and mathematical fluency may be considered.
- Participation in maths clubs or enrichment activities such as optional maths tasks provided on Teams.
- Regular engagement in extracurricular maths opportunities showing enthusiasm and readiness for competition.
- Pupils who show curiosity, persistence, and a willingness to tackle complex problems are prioritised.
- Pupils new to maths competitions may be invited to observe or support This encourages wider interest and builds confidence for future involvement.

History Competitions such as Townsend-Warner

Selection may include:

- Performance in history lessons or internal assessments, particularly in analytical writing and source evaluation.
- Pupils demonstrating strong critical thinking, historical reasoning, and the ability to construct well-evidenced arguments may be considered.
- Participation in history clubs or enrichment activities such as optional research tasks or debates shared via Teams.
- Regular engagement in extracurricular history opportunities with pupils showing enthusiasm and readiness for competition.
- Pupils who show curiosity, independence, and a willingness to explore complex historical themes are prioritised.
- Pupils willing and wishing to complete additional work to prepare for history competitions, with some such as The Townsend Warner requiring a considerable amount of allocated time to prepare.
- Pupils new to history competitions may be invited to observe or assist with research and preparation. This encourages wider interest and builds confidence for future involvement.

Chess Tournaments

Selection may include:

- Pupils that attend Chess Club inside or outside of the school.
- Performance in school chess club or internal matches.
- Strategic thinking and rule knowledge.
- Enthusiasm and commitment to practice.
- Pupils new to chess may be invited to observe or support to encourage future involvement.

Poetry Recitals/ Readings

Selection may include:

- Confidence and clarity in spoken language.
- Pupils who demonstrate strong verbal expression, clear diction, and stage presence may be considered.
- Pupils that attend LAMDA lessons.
- Pupils that attend Drama Club at the school or externally.
- Engagement in English lessons or English based clubs.
- Participation in poetry-related activities and enthusiasm for literature are valued.
- Pupils who show thoughtful understanding of the poem's meaning.
- Pupils new to poetry recitals may be invited to observe or support This encourages wider interest and builds confidence for future involvement.

Sporting Competitions such as cross-country, NFL flag football, tennis, table tennis

Selection may include:

- Performance in PE lessons and/ or Sports clubs.
- Pupils demonstrating strong endurance, pace, and technique during school-based activities may be considered.
- Stamina, resilience, and attitude.
- Selection considers pupils who show determination, perseverance, and a positive mindset.
- Enthusiasm and commitment to training.
- Regular participation in sports clubs or practice sessions is valued.
- Pupils new to these sports may be invited to observe or support This encourages wider interest and future involvement, even for those not yet ready to compete.

Communication and Transparency

Staff will communicate selection decisions sensitively and clearly.

Parents will be informed in advance of any off-site events or competitions.

Pupils not selected will be encouraged to continue developing their skills and may be considered for future opportunities.