

# Colours Policy

for both the Junior and Senior School

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## Colours Policy

### Purpose of Colours

The aim of Colours is to recognise, reward and celebrate excellent achievement and effort in art, CCF, drama, music, sport, technology, and any other other co-curricular activity within the School.

### Types of Colours

Junior Art Colours  
Junior Co-curricular Colours  
Junior Drama Colours  
Junior Music Colours  
Junior Sports Colours\*  
Junior Technology Colours  
Senior Art Colours  
Senior CCF Colours  
Senior Co-curricular Colours  
Senior Drama Colours  
Senior Music Colours  
Senior Sports Colours\*  
Senior Technology Colours

*\*Sports Colours are not sub-divided into individual sports. Sports Colours can be given to a pupil who meets the criteria either in a single sport or when his/her performance in sport is considered across more than one discipline.*

### Eligibility and criteria for Colours

Junior Colours can be awarded at any point in U3/L4 as soon as a pupil is judged to have met the criteria.

Senior Colours can be awarded at any point in U4-U6 as soon as a pupil is judged to have met the criteria.

There is no limit on how many Colours can be awarded to a single pupil. How many Colours a pupil already possesses has no bearing whatsoever on whether or not he/she is awarded further Colours.

Colours are usually awarded for a combination of excellent achievement and effort at Freeman's in that field. However, truly exceptional effort shown by pupils will also be a sufficient condition for Colours to be awarded.

What comprises "excellent" and "exceptional" in the above definitions is at the discretion of Freeman's staff.

Although Freeman's encourages and applauds pupils' participation in activities outside school, Colours are awarded solely on the strength of activities, matches, performances, practices and rehearsals organised by the School and where the pupil is representing the School.

Different disciplines specify their own criteria under these guiding principles, and these can be found as appendices to this Policy. When applying the criteria to Junior School pupils, the age of those pupils is factored in.

## Nomination, moderation, ratification and presentation of Colours

Although the School is at pains not to miss the opportunity to award Colours to those who have earned them, they are not bestowed lightly. The School will therefore not seek to award a fixed number of Colours in any one year, and the numbers of Colours awarded may therefore differ across cohorts, genders and disciplines. That is, the sole determinant for awarding Colours is whether or not a particular pupil has met the standard.

Pupils can be informally nominated to the respective Head of Department by any member of staff, who will then decide whether or not to take them forward. Formal nominations are then submitted to the Colours Committee by the Head of Art, Head of Co-curricular (for Co-curricular Colours), CCF Contingent Commander, Head of Drama, Head of Technology, Engineering and Design, Director of Music and Director of Sport.

The Colours Committee meets in November, March and June to consider and then ratify formal nominations. Its members are:

- Deputy Head (Chair)
- Head of Co-curricular
- Head of Junior School
- Head of Art
- CCF Contingent Commander
- Head of Drama
- Director of Music
- Director of Sport
- Head of Technology, Engineering and Design

The aims of the Committee are to: keep the standards high, but not too high; ensure consistency across disciplines; agree alternative rewards for those falling just short of the standard for Colours.

Each nomination is discussed individually and compared alongside other nominations in different disciplines in order to ensure a level playing-field. Pupils who would probably receive Colours were they of a higher ability may be awarded Distinctions instead.

Colours are presented at an Assembly at the end of Autumn and Spring Terms, and at Prize Day in the Summer Term.

## Rescinding of Colours

The awarding of Colours is chiefly recognition of one's past endeavours having met a certain standard. However, with them comes the expectation that the recipient will continue to act in a way that is commensurate with their prestigious nature. In the unlikely event that an individual does not act in this way, they may be rescinded by decision of the Headmaster.

## Appendix A

### **Art Colours - Criteria**

A pupil who meets the criteria for Art Colours will do some or all of the following;

- Search out, be appreciative of and enthusiastically pursue the full range of Art opportunities at Freeman's
- Be an ambassador for Art among other members of the School community, especially younger pupils (options evenings, open mornings)
- Give freely of his/her time to mentor other pupils, inspiring them through his/her enthusiasm for the subject
- Utilise time outside of lessons to practise Art
- Take advantage of extension tasks
- Engage in Art outside of the lessons and seek inspiration from exhibitions, galleries, museums or through self-led study
- Show initiative and support in preparation for exhibitions
- Run/lead a lunchtime club
- Submit work to external competitions
- Go above and beyond expectations, consistently
- Demonstrate outstanding skill and commitment to Art

## Appendix B

### **Drama Colours – criteria**

A pupil who meets the criteria for Drama Colours will:

- search out, be appreciative of and enthusiastically pursue the full range of Drama opportunities at Freeman's
- be an ambassador for Drama among other members of the School community, especially younger pupils
- be consistently 'on-task' in lessons and rehearsals
- utilise time outside of lessons and rehearsals to practise Drama
- engage in theatre outside of the lesson and seeks inspiration in a range of new and existing works
- support other members of a cast by preparing for his/her role assiduously
- honour any commitment that he/she makes to a production by being reliable, punctual and going the extra mile if necessary
- *for performers*: have unusually high levels of confidence, stage presence, flair and creativity
- *for technical roles*: have extremely close attention to detail, ability to think on one's feet when things go wrong and exceptional reliability
- balance being a self-starter and showing independence with seeking out help and advice when it is best to do so
- embrace the new and unfamiliar; resist staying in his/her 'comfort zone', including being type-cast
- be committed to improving his/her skills by accepting feedback non-defensively and acting upon it; a willingness to work on areas of weakness rather than just playing to his/her strengths
- show leadership within a team yet without dominating to the exclusion of others; ability to bring out the best in other members of an ensemble
- recognising the value of all members of an ensemble
- desire to celebrate the successes of others and commitment to helping them make a success of their role in a production
- have the courage to stand out from the crowd and be proud of what they are doing

## Appendix C

### **Music Colours – criteria**

#### Essential:

- outstanding contribution towards musical activities at the school – attendance and participation in rehearsals; assistance with groups; positive and enthusiastic approach to music making; a consistently high level of music making as below success in Music Festivals such as Pro Corda;
- outstanding achievements in ABRSM / Trinity exams as follows (or a commensurate or higher level of musical achievement or accomplishment without the taking of exams):

Juniors (U3/L4) - Examination success – Distinction at Grade 6 or higher

Seniors (U4-U5) – Examination success – Distinction at Grade 7 or higher

Sixth Form – Examination success – Distinction at Grade 8 or higher (Advanced Certificate / Diploma)

#### Desirable :

- representing the School in a national organisation such as National Youth Orchestra or National Youth Choir

## Appendix D

### **Sports Colours - criteria**

The award of Colours should be the ultimate accolade for any student engaged in Sport at Freeman's. Sports Colours should be a goal that students strive for providing a wonderful motivational tool. These awards should neither be given lightly nor expected, whilst every effort must be made to ensure that the 'currency is not devalued' by their over use. Playing at 1st team level by itself can never be a justification for the award of Colours. This policy is reviewed annually by the PE & Games department to ensure it is both fair and rigorous.

All Colours are awarded based on our 'Professional Judgement' and although criteria is based on excellence & performance the pupil will need to have an extremely proactive approach to sport and show high levels of commitment within school. Generally only 'A' team colours will be awarded. However, Colours can be awarded to some B team pupils who have shown exceptional effort & attitude, and who also fulfil the criteria below.

- The student has shown particular commitment to sport throughout the school year/season
- The student has shown good leadership skills & qualities
- The student has shown greater ability to work together well with their peers in a team context than might otherwise be expected
- The student has shown high levels of dedication and determination to succeed in an individual or team sport as well as exhibiting a pro-active role within the sport
- The student has to have set an exceptional example: they have been a good 'role model' for the rest of the year/school
- The student has to have been highly motivated and performed consistently to a high standard in their sport(s) in both training and in matches

## Appendix E

### **Technology Colours – criteria**

A holder of Technology, Engineering and Design Colours will:

- produce DT/FT work of a consistently high standard in lessons and after school clubs, working as independently as possible
- follow a complex set of instructions to the letter and take pleasure in being able to do so without unnecessary assistance
- constantly seek to 'upskill' himself/herself by using new and complex techniques
- regard a problem as a challenge rather than as an inconvenience, working with tenacity and flexibility to find a solution
- show resourcefulness and initiative so that progress can be made with only limited materials
- use creativity to design innovative solutions
- take pride in being original rather than merely adopting the ideas of others
- be self-analytical, constantly exposing his/her own designs to constructive criticism with a view to making them better still
- be an ambassador for the discipline as a whole
- give freely of his/her time to mentor other pupils, inspiring them through his/her enthusiasm for the subject



## Appendix F

### CCF Colours- Criteria

**Aim:** The aim of the CCF Colours Scheme is to recognise and reward individuals within the CCF that contribute to the contingent through actions that wouldn't usually merit a promotion in rank.

**Awarding Criteria:** Cadets must meet all of the following in order to be awarded colours;

1. Creating content to aid in the learning and development of the cadets.
2. Helping the SSI with stores (over a prolonged period of time and not including DoE volunteering **AND/OR** Volunteering to help with or to be a lead NCO on a particular part of the syllabus, ensuring that the lessons taught and the resources are of the highest standard.
3. Mentoring and Developing cadets that may be struggling with aspects of the APC/RAF-APC.
4. Representing the contingent at external courses and events, and doing so in a manner that reflects well upon the contingent.
5. Always attending with a positive attitude and looking smart and correctly dressed.
6. Outstanding attendance and willingness to honour their CCF commitments.

## Appendix G

### **Co-curricular Colours – Criteria**

A pupil who meets the criteria for Co-Curricular Colours will demonstrate:

- Outstanding contribution to one or more co-curricular clubs beyond those where colours are already awarded (art, drama, music, sport and technology);
- Outstanding attendance and participation;
- Very high level of assistance and/or successful leadership evidence;
- A **consistently** positive and enthusiastic approach to the club;
- The desire to be an ambassador for the club;
- A desire to search out ways to improve the club; its participants, engagement, involvement in competition where appropriate and an evident desire to drive the club's success forward.