



Code of Conduct

A Code of Practice for teachers, parents, pupils and spectators to refer to when engaged within arts events and competitions associated with the Independent Schools Association (ISA).

Staff: Teachers and other adult helpers.

All staff should:

1. Treat pupils and other adults with respect.
2. Use appropriate language and behaviour when working with young children and commit fully to the spirit of this code of practice.
3. Be reasonable in their demands on children's time, energy, and enthusiasm - they need other interests as well.
4. Ensure that resources and facilities are appropriate to the age and ability of the children and meet safety standards.
5. Be fully conversant with school safeguarding procedures and be DBS checked as required.
6. Respect all other schools in attendance and under no circumstances use ISA events as a means of recruiting pupils or staff.
7. Remember that children take part for fun and enjoyment and winning is only part of this. It is important that pupils gain a positive experience from the event.
8. Be a positive role model and lead by example.
9. GAP students, employed by the school, are not allowed to participate in sports events individually or as part of a school team.
10. Only select pupils who are on the main school's admissions register, on the date of the event.
11. Bring any safeguarding or child protection concerns to the attention of a member of ISA staff.

Parents/carers:

All parents/carers should:

1. Remember that children learn best by example. Treat staff, pupils, and other families with respect.
2. Teach your child that effort and teamwork are as important as victory so that the result of the event/competition is accepted without undue disappointment.
3. Emphasise enjoyment and fun.
4. Remember that children develop at different rates and react differently to the same pressures.
5. Encourage your child to respect and celebrate difference.
6. Respect the decisions made by the adjudicator(s) and refrain from questioning publicly the official's judgement and honesty of their decisions.

7. Turn defeat into victory by helping your child work towards skill improvement and a positive attitude. Refrain from shouting at your child for making a mistake or losing a competition.

Pupils

All pupils should:

1. Treat adults and other pupils with respect.
2. Participate for their own fun and personal enjoyment
3. Learn the rules and adhere to them.
4. Respect the decisions made by the adjudicator(s).
5. Remember that the aim of the event/competition is to have fun and gain experience.

Spectators

Spectators should:

1. Treat pupils and other adults with respect.
2. Respect the decisions made by the adjudicator(s).
3. Enjoy the performances whether your school wins or not.
4. Use appropriate language and behaviour towards all participants, teachers and event organisers at all times.
5. Remember that children take part for their own fun and experience. And learn by example.
6. Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during an event of any kind.

Disruptive and inappropriate behaviour, verbal or physical harassment or any form of discrimination will not be tolerated.

Ratified by ISA Executive Council November 2025

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Registered Charity Number 1158943