



Pate's Grammar School



Your Guide to Pate's Sport



Welcome to Pate's Sport

Sport plays a pivotal role in Pate's school life, offering another area in which students can belong, thrive and excel.

Pate's Sport promotes physical fitness and wellbeing, develops teamwork and leadership skills and forges enduring friendships.

Our sports programme is dedicated to inspiring ambition and resilience among our students, and developing passions and talents that will extend far beyond their time at Pate's.

We offer a wide range of sports which enrich and complement the Physical Education and

Games curriculum. Our offer evolves each season and year, with the aim of including all sporting abilities. There is an abundance of opportunities to participate in House Sport competitions, and to represent Pate's in fixtures against local schools and institutions from across the county and neighbouring regions. Our students make the most of opportunities to compete, as individuals and teams, at district, county, regional and national levels.

Our sports tours and ski trips are legendary, and extremely popular! Over the last two years, Pate's students have visited South Africa, Wales and London for rugby, netball, and hockey, and adventured to Canada and Europe for snow sports.

Your Guide to Pate's Sport provides you with essential information about sport at Pate's, including training, team selection and fixture arrangements.

To discuss any aspect of our sports programme, please feel free to contact:

Mrs Megan Collins

Head of PE

mcollins@patesgs.org

Sports Clubs

At the start of each term, the updated co-curricular sport schedules are emailed to students and their families; [to see our current programme, please click here.](#)

All after-school sports clubs run from 3.40pm to 4.40pm. Students must leave the school site immediately. If clubs are cancelled, or any other changes arise (e.g. weather), this is communicated to students and via schoolcomms to parents/carers.

Our co-curricular programme changes through the year to reflect the sporting seasons, which differ from sport to sport. We welcome all students to participate; there is no deadline for joining a club, although we encourage students to attend sports clubs from the start of term. Students with a high level of ability are encouraged to attend training regularly and represent the school in fixtures. Attendance at clubs is one of the main factors we consider in team selection. Sports clubs are free and really key part of the offer Pate's has. You can see find Sports Clubs timetable on the school website.

House Sport

Pate's has a rich, thriving House System, within which sport competitions play a big part. All students in Year 7-11, many from Year 12-13 participate in House Sport, with most events taking place during Games lessons. All Year 7-10 and 12 students are involved in Sports Day. Many Year 11 and 13 also get involved.

The two major sporting House events are our Swimming Gala, held at Leisure@Cheltenham, and Sports Day, held at Cheltenham's Prince of Wales Stadium (parents and carers are warmly welcome to come along and support).

House Sport is sport for all and we encourage every student, irrespective of their level, to get involved and have fun!



Pate's Sports Kit

There is a new PE and Games Kit from September 2026, and further details can be found in the Information Guide. [Pate's GS Omnitau Order Portal](#).

To minimise costs for families, Years 8-11 may continue using most elements of the previous kit, rather than requiring a complete replacement.

For Years 8-11 only:

- You may purchase a plain white T-shirt or polo shirt from any supermarket or retailer, or alternatively purchase the Pate's PE T-shirt from Omnitau.
- We are gradually moving away from grey hoodies. If preferred, these might be purchased through the Nearly New Uniform shop. However, we encourage students to wear the black Pate's quarter-zip top as their outer layer for PE.
- (Boys) The white and black 'hooped' Games shirt is still available and labelled clearly on the Omnitau website.
- (Girls) Red hockey socks can be purchased from most sports retailers or online, including Amazon, at a reasonable cost.

Players' Safety

Safety of the players in our care is very important to us all.

Mouthguards

All students in Years 7-9 will be playing hockey or rugby in Games lessons and most students will play one or both further up the school too. Mouthguards are **strongly advised** for these students.

Mouthguards are compulsory for those playing in hockey school fixtures. Any mouthguard will meet the compulsory requirement. The Head of PE will email a link to parents/carers for a dentist grade self-mould mouthguard from OPRO, with a Pate's Sport discount code. Please look out for this email from our Head for PE.

Injury Prevention

It is compulsory for rugby players to be up to date with the *RFU HEADCASE* head injury online reading resources (which is also beneficial reading for all sports performers, parents/carers and coaches). **We encourage you to [click here to complete the Open Access Version](#).**

Pate's Rugby will continue using the RFU Activation Injury Prevention warm-ups before games and training. We recommend all students, regardless of sport(s), practice these exercises as well as the fundamental movements from lessons.

Representing Pate's at Sport

Fixtures

Detailed fixture information can be found on the Pate's Sport SOCS website www.patessport.org. This includes dates, times, venues and team selection.

Students selected for school fixtures are expected to attend. On the rare occasion there is an unavoidable clash, students should speak to the relevant staff member in good time.

Fixtures may finish after school. Parents/carers are asked to email the Team Coach **on the day** of the fixture to confirm if their child will be collected by another parent/carer, or if they are walking home from an away venue.

Occasionally, meet times may be scheduled before the start of the school day; we appreciate your support in ensuring timely arrival.

Team Selection

At Pate's, we prioritise maximum participation in all sports, aiming to reward the effort and commitment of students.

Team selection is made by the member of staff in charge of that team, with the final decision sitting with them. When selecting we consider a student's skill level, dedication to training, effort and overall attitude.

Medical Support at Home Fixtures

We use *Prime Practice* to support our Home Saturday fixtures to enable any injury or medical need to be assessed by a trained professional, in addition to school staff being first aid trained.

Team Captains

The Team Captain for each fixture is named on the teamsheet and typically captaincy remains the same for the entire season. Being selected as Captain is a real achievement and shows the coach has recognised leadership skills, commitment, sporting skill and organisation in that student.

The Captain's role is to:

- Communicate with their team ahead of fixtures, ensuring players are aware and available.
- Communicate any potential issues with the Team Coach.
- Lead by example in training and during fixtures.
- Perform specific roles at fixtures (e.g. completing toss, lead the warm-up, on-pitch organisation, three cheers etc).
- Input into the Sport Overview speech at our end of year Sports Celebration Evening.

Transport Arrangements

We provide transport for all mid-week fixtures and most Saturday Away matches.

For fixtures taking place at nearby schools on weekends, students may need to travel directly to the venue. This information will be detailed on the team sheets on SOCS.

Even when transport is provided, students can travel direct to venues if this is clearly communicated to their Coach in advance.

Player Conduct

As representatives of Pate's Grammar School, students are expected to uphold the highest standards of behaviour before, during and after all fixtures, including demonstrating sportsmanship and respect for opponents, officials, parents/carers and school staff etc.

On Away matches on Saturdays, students are expected to arrive in full school uniform and bring sports kit with them. For Home fixtures, students may arrive ready to play.

Supporter Conduct

We warmly welcome parents/carers to all fixtures and encourage enthusiastic support for Pate's teams. If an opposing school does not allow parental attendance, we will aim to notify you in advance via SOCS.

For safeguarding purposes, for Home fixtures held during the school day, visitors must wear a lanyard (which can be provided upon signing in at our main Reception).

If arriving before 3.45pm, please go to Reception and sign in first.

Parents/carers are permitted direct access to the pitch/court if the fixture starts after 3.45pm or on weekends.

Parents/carers are permitted to take photographs of their own children during fixtures, but these images should not be shared on social media without the school's permission.

At Pate's, we believe that sport is for the enjoyment of all students and their supporters. We ask all spectators to adhere to the following principles:

- Remain on the sideline and applaud good play by all participants.
- Provide encouragement and feedback in a positive manner.
- Set a positive example for students and other adults.
- Allow students to learn at their own pace.
- Respect the officials and their decisions.
- Stay calm, offer support, and enjoy the event.

Pate's Sport Celebrations

We publish the **Player of the Term** for each sport on our Sports noticeboard and award **Pate's Sports Colours** to recognise students' commitment and performance.

We celebrate Sporting Contribution at our annual **Year 13 Leavers' Awards; The Pitman Cup** is awarded for the broadest contribution to Pate's Sport at the highest level.

We hold our annual **Sports Celebration Evening** in the Summer Term in the School Hall. This special evening is for all students who have proudly represented Pate's Sport during the academic year. It is always a wonderful celebration of sporting achievement and team spirit, and a great opportunity to get students, families and staff together. Highlights of the evening include a talk from an inspiring speaker, sport review speeches, other sporting updates from the year, Players' Player Awards and our major awards section.

Fitness

Students in Years 9-13 may use our Fitness Suite following an induction with a member of staff.

The Strength & Conditioning Suite is available for students in Years 11-13.

These Fitness facilities are open 8.15-4.00pm and can also be used during school hours for Years 12 and 13, and during Break and Lunchtime for Years 9-11.



Student access may be restricted if timetabled lessons are taking place in the venue.

Through our Physical Education curriculum, students engage in various fundamental movements, enhancing their understanding of different training methods and techniques. Supervised sessions will be available during some Lunchtimes, allowing staff to provide tailored advice and training tips.

Membership Fees

- £20 for Years 9 and 10 (access to Fitness Suite)
- £30 for Years 11-13 (access to Fitness Suite and Strength & Conditioning Suite)

Payments are processed via Schoolgateway; students must sign in and out upon each visit. These fees cover the servicing and development of our Fitness facilities.

Sponsorship Opportunities

We encourage parents, carers, Old Patesians (alumni) and members of the wider community to consider sponsoring our sports programme. Your support will play a vital role in enhancing our students' experiences and opportunities. If you are interested in contributing to Pate's sports initiatives, we would be delighted to hear from you.

**We look forward to sharing
your Pate's Sport journey with you!**

