

Code of Conduct for Spectators

Your school is a member of IAPS, the Independent Association of Prep Schools. IAPS is a school's association with 670+ member schools, both in the UK and internationally. IAPS was founded in 1893 and for over one hundred years we have been committed to supporting Headteachers in their roles as leaders of the top Prep and Independent Junior Schools in the country. Membership of IAPS says a great deal about the quality of the school you send your child to for their education.

We provide services to our members offering support and guidance to Headteachers and professional training for staff. We also provide opportunities for children to take part in sport and art competitions. We are not a private company solely engaged in running sports competitions

The annual sports programme offers a range of team and individual events for children who attend IAPS schools. The children are able to compete in a fun, safe and competitive environment. During the 2018-2019 academic year, 160 events were organised, in 23 sports, with 23,000 children participating. All organisers and qualified officials are passionate volunteers, who help us to deliver the events in line with National Governing Body rules and regulations.

Where permitted, we are delighted to welcome spectators to attend IAPS events to support the children. Our agreed code of conduct highlights IAPS's expectations of spectators, to ensure that all events are enjoyable and fair for the children involved, and we hope you would support us by reading and applying the following code;

1. Be a positive role model and lead by example; children are involved in sport for their enjoyment and without undue spectator pressure.
2. Encourage children to play by the rules.
3. **Respect the officials and their decisions at all times. Video evidence from spectators will not be accepted in any cases to dispute decisions.**
4. Respect the coaches and their decisions. They give their time, energy and experience to coach your children.
5. **Refrain from verbal or indeed physical abuse towards players, officials and fellow spectators.**
6. Be friendly and respectful to the opposition.
7. Teach children that effort and teamwork are as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
8. Turn defeat into victory by helping children work towards skill improvement and a positive sporting attitude.
9. Be aware that IAPS events have comprehensive safeguarding policies and procedures, available on our website: <https://sport.iaps.uk/safeguarding>
10. Relax and enjoy the event.

IAPS wants all the competitions it runs to pass without any negative incidents. Excitement and emotion can run high at the events, not least amongst the supporters. Despite this, unpleasant and inappropriate behaviour is very rarely in evidence at our events but you should be aware that **IAPS retains the right to ask you to leave the event, if you fail to comply with the code of conduct.**

Thank you for your support in this important matter.