



Belfast Royal Academy

Principal

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Dear Parent/Guardian,

We very much value your son/daughter's contribution to extra-curricular sport at Belfast Royal Academy and the enthusiasm of parents, grandparents, other relatives and friends who travel to matches at home and away in order to support the teams. The foundations of extra-curricular sport are built upon core values such as respect, integrity, inclusivity, fun and excellence. It is essential that parents, pupils and staff all adhere to these core values.

You may not be aware that although the majority of our sports coaches are members of the teaching staff their commitment to extra-curricular activities is voluntary. Please recognise the value and importance of the fact that your son/daughter is being coached and refereed by a willing volunteer. With this in mind, we ask all parents to familiarise themselves with the school's Code of Conduct for Parents and Code of Conduct for Spectators, included in this email, and adhere to these points.

Your son/daughter may be participating in sporting activities outside of school hours. If this is the case, please ensure that you are contactable during this time in case a member of staff needs to speak with you. If your son/daughter suffers an injury, we **must be able to contact you** to organise a safe handover.

Concussion recognition and management are very important in sport. The school has responded to the concussion advice given by the Department of Education by following the concussion protocols of the Irish Rugby Football Union. I have attached the school concussion protocols for you. Please take note of the signs and symptoms of concussion so that you might recognise them and also the "Graduated Return to Play Protocols" which must be followed before your son/daughter returns to play if they have suffered a concussion.

Buses are available to take your child to and from the sporting grounds at Roughfort. Volunteer staff are willing to allow pupils to be picked up at Roughfort when sporting activities finish outside school hours, but we kindly ask that this is prompt. If you are unable to make the finish time (generally 5pm at the latest), your son/daughter should get the bus back to school.

We look forward to your support on the touchline.

Yours sincerely

H Woods (Mrs)
Principal