



COLOURS AND INTERNATIONALISTS' AWARD CRITERIA 2024-25

Summary of changes

Staff member responsible	Revision date	Approved by	Approval date	Reason for update
Deputy Rector	Nov 2023	SSG	Oct 2023	Reviewed in light of feedback
Deputy Rector	Sept 2024	SSG	Sept 2024	Annual review

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Colours at Dollar

Colours are one of the many ways we celebrate pupil success at Dollar. They are one of the most prestigious internal awards that the Academy can make to a pupil and as such they are hard to achieve. To protect the value of Colours, rigorous criteria are applied to a pupil's performance in a certain area of school life.

Colours and half colours may be removed if a pupil, having received the award then fails to continue with the same approach to the activity.

Full Colours Criteria

A pupil judged worthy of Full Colours:

- 1) Has represented the school at 1st team level (for sport) or has been involved in major school competitions or performances (non-sporting) for at least a season / year, having been a first-choice performer throughout.
- 2) Has made a very notable personal contribution to the activity; ideally, demonstrating leadership qualities.
- 3) Has had excellent attendance at practices and matches / performances.
- 4) Has invariably given of their best in practices and matches / performances
- 5) Has maintained an outstandingly positive and helpful attitude at all times.
- 6) Demonstrates excellence in the skills associated with the activity, measured by district, national or international standards, where appropriate.
- 7) Is in Forms V or VI [or, exceptionally, Form IV].

Half Colours Criteria

A pupil judged worthy of Half Sporting Colours:

- 1) Has represented the school at 1st team level (for sport) or has been involved in major school competitions or performances (non-sporting) for at least a season / year.
- 2) Has made a notable personal contribution to the success of the activity.
- 3) Has had very good attendance at practices and matches / performances.
- 4) Has maintained a fully positive and helpful attitude at all times.
- 5) Demonstrates very good skills in the skills associated with the activity.
- 6) Is in Forms V or VI [or, exceptionally, Form IV].

The awards are for school activities and denote achievement in and commitment to Dollar Academy; participants in activities not organised by the school or representing the school are not generally eligible for Colours.

Types of Colours

Upon receipt of Colours, the pupil is entitled to the following:

	Sporting	Other activities/cultural
Half Colours	Silver ship blazer badge	Blue blazer badge
Full Colours	White braid blazer, a silver ship blazer badge and the Colours tie	Blue braid blazer, a blue blazer badge and the Colours tie

The Awarding Process

Colours are generally awarded once a half term at a Rector's assembly. The awarding of Colours should come at the end of the activity / sport's season, for example Colours for Pipe Band will be awarded in October, after the competition season is complete.

It is important that pupils who are awarded Colours are able to be recognised for their efforts. Part of this happens through the recognition at the Rector's Assembly; however, pupils should also have the opportunity to wear the Colours tie and have braids sewn to their blazer. It is for this reason that Form VI can have Colours awarded before the end of their season, e.g. rugby and hockey Colours can be awarded to eligible performers at the half term of Term 2. Moreover, activity leaders of summer sports should consider awarding Form V Colours at the end of the summer term, so that they can have the honour of wearing their colours for the duration of their Form VI.

Staff responsible for activities propose pupils for Colours to a committee, chaired by the Deputy Rector. Nominations are made through this link:

<https://forms.office.com/e/etELU0NqtG>

The committee meet as outlined below, where necessary they may ask for further information from staff to make sure there is standardisation across different areas of school life.

The rhythm for awarding Colours is as follows:

Three weeks in advance of Rector's Colours Assembly	Staff invited to make nominations to the Colours Committee
Two weeks in advance of Rector's Colours Assembly	Deadline for nominations from staff
One week in advance of Rector's Colours Assembly	Staff responsible for nominations are informed of the decision made by the Colours Committee

It is important that members of staff do not discuss their proposals with pupils beyond establishing the facts of individual performance and achievements. Difficulties have been caused by pupils and parents quoting staff as having given judgements on the level of colours deserved.

The Internationalists' Award Criteria

Pupils who have represented their countries in either sporting or cultural activities will be eligible for the award of the Internationalists' Tie. As with Colours awards, the Colours Committee discusses the proposals received and makes decisions on the basis of the following general principles:

A pupil eligible for The Internationalists' Award:

- 1) is involved in either Sporting competition or Cultural activities;
- 2) is at any age / level [pupils from the Prep & Junior School are thus included];
- 3) is in a team or group representing any nation [i.e. not restricted to Scottish or British] and playing against another nation (e.g. Scotland vs North Yorkshire would not qualify);
- 4) the team should include the best performers in that sport or activity at that level in the country.

Furthermore,

- 1) the pupil should be beyond development squad level;
- 2) the pupil must have competed with others for a place in the team and been selected on merit.
- 3) the pupil must have been selected for at least one game or performance that took place, against opposition or in front of an audience, and they must have played or performed during the event.

Pupils should apply in writing to the Deputy Rector, in his role as Chairperson of the Colours Committee, giving full details of their selection and performance, with supporting evidence. The Committee will be happy to discuss any proposal received, to ascertain whether it fits the criteria. Once the decision has been made, the successful applicant will be notified, and an arrangement made to present a tie in Senior School Assembly. There will be no cost for the tie for current pupils.