

Ripley St Thomas CE High School Rewards Policy

As a school we recognise that a key part of developing the potential of our young people is giving encouragement and praise. Praise is a key component of good teaching and good staff/pupil relationships. Staff at Ripley actively look for opportunities to praise pupils both within and beyond lessons. We encourage our pupils to strive for excellence which we take to mean being the best that they can be, regardless of ability. The school is developing a system of rewards to allow us to celebrate achievement, excellence and contribution in all aspects of school life.

Our systems, which are continually evolving, are currently as follows:

Grades

Any pupil with all A's for effort on his/her grade card at half term will be awarded a Gold certificate by the head.

Any pupils with all A's at the end of term as well as at half term will receive a star shaped badge presented by the head.

Attendance

100% attendance to be rewarded by a badge presented at the end of year

Form prizes

Form prizes will be awarded each year on Prize Day to the highest achieving boy and girl in each form. An additional prize is to be awarded for effort – one for each form.

Acknowledgement

Year noticeboards have been provided for each year group to enable us to celebrate achievement in all spheres of school life.

Subject recognition

Subject areas seek to reward and encourage pupils for both effort and achievement through a range of strategies including:

- **Merit marks:** Each department has decided on the criteria it will use for awarding merits to pupils; these criteria will be communicated to pupils. Bronze, silver and gold merit badges will be awarded to pupils gaining particular numbers of merits.
- **Positive Postcards** are used by departments as they see fit to reward and encourage.

- **Stamps/stickers/prizes** are awarded to pupils on an ongoing basis.

Extra Curricular Activities

A range of awards will be presented to celebrate success and achievement in various out of school activities.

PE

Junior Colours

Half colour certificates are awarded in year 7 for commitment to practices.
Colour badges are awarded in year 8 for commitment to practices.
Excellence certificates are awarded in year 9 for achievement and for contribution to practices and teams.

Senior Colours

In years 10 and 11 colours ties are awarded to pupils for commitment to practices and teams.

Captains and vice captains of sports in each year group receive badges of office.

Positions of Responsibility

Giving pupils positions of responsibility is a tangible way of rewarding hard work and effort. From next year additional positions of responsibility will be available to pupils:

- Pupils in year 11 who have maintained high standards throughout their time at Ripley will be made prefects.
- A number of pupils will have the opportunity to be Sports Captains and Vice Captains in each year. Positions will also be offered as librarians, peer mentors, lead musicians and worship representatives. These are in addition to current opportunities as school council and house council members. We are hoping to expand the number of positions of responsibility available.

This document will be kept continually under review as part of our commitment to improve our systems for rewarding pupils.

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Feb 07