

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS (FAQs)

What time do your lunchtime and / or after school clubs start and finish?

Our lunchtime sports clubs start at 1:20pm and run for the duration of the lunch break, until just before 2:00pm. As we have a large number of students in the school and consequently a split day, our key stage 3 after school clubs (year 7, 8 and 9) start at 2:50pm and finish at 4:15pm, while our key stage 4 and 5 clubs (year 10,11,12 and 13) start at 3:40pm and finish at 5:00pm. At lunchtime, students only require a suitable pair of trainers in order to participate. After school clubs require full PE kit.

My son or daughter has been picked for a sports team. Where can I find details about any upcoming fixtures?

The Chalfonts' calendar on the homepage details all upcoming sports events over the next fortnight. Clicking on a fixture will enable you to view the team sheet for that fixture. The squad, the location, the required kit, the start time and the pick-up time will all be present on that team sheet. These team sheets are also displayed on the PE noticeboards, giving your child the opportunity to make a note of all of these details and provide you with that information. Please note that fixtures, squad lists and timings can all be subject to change.

My son or daughter has a school fixture at home. Where will it be played?

This can depend on the sport in question. Our most common fixtures will be played in the adjacent Chalfonts Leisure Centre (netball, basketball), the school gym (basketball), the school field (rounders), or the Narcot Lane Playing Fields, over the road from the school (football, rugby).

My son or daughter has a school fixture at another school. What is the procedure for this?

In most cases, students will travel to the other school in a minibus with their team-mates. They will then be returned to school and dropped off outside the front of the Chalfonts Leisure Centre. Parents and guardians should wait here for them. There may be the odd occasion that students return a little late for a fixture. If you're running late, please notify your child to wait inside the Leisure Centre, where their staff can look after them until you arrive. In some cases, such as large athletics events, students may travel to and from competitions by coach.

My son or daughter has a school fixture. Can I come and watch?

Parents are more than welcome to come and watch fixtures, in fact, we encourage it. If you're wanting to watch your child in action, it is important that your behaviour and language demonstrates positive role modelling for both ours and our oppositions students. Please try and refrain from "coaching" the students, as the teacher in charge may be using alternative tactics. Positive support is actively encouraged.

My son or daughter has been selected to represent the school in a fixture. Unfortunately, we have a prior commitment. What should we do?

We understand that you and your family have other commitments and on occasion, you may not be able to prioritise school fixtures. In this instance, please send your son or daughter to speak to the teacher in charge as soon as possible. This way, we'll be able to offer your son or daughter's place to another available student. We try and publish our team sheets at least a week in advance to ensure that students have adequate time to address any potential problems. In the rare occurrence that your son or daughter no longer wishes to participate in a particular sport or fixture, the procedure detailed above should still be followed.

My son or daughter in year 7 (8 or 9) has been selected for a sports fixture, but the teacher in charge teaches until 3:40pm. As my son or daughter finishes school at 2:50, what should they do for those 50 minutes?

There are usually a few of options here. Option 1 - Depending on which day it is, there would usually be a key stage 3 after school club happening at this time. Your son or daughter could attend this club until 3:40pm. Option 2 - The school LRC (Library) is always open at this time. Students could complete any homework or revision tasks they may have during this time. Option 3 – on certain nights of the week Homework Clubs run throughout the school. Your son or daughter could attend one of these sessions, again to catch up on any homework that may need completing.

My son or daughter has a school fixture/practice, but it clashes with a club training session after school. What should we do?

We understand that students have other sporting commitments away from school life, but we're ever hopeful that solutions can be found to suit all parties. In an ideal world, school fixtures and practices would be prioritised over club training sessions and matches. However, if your son or daughter is performing at an elite level or professional club, we of course, would support them with their decisions.

How do you pick the players for your teams and squads?

For the vast majority of our sports we'll run a "trial" session. For our winter sports programme (netball, football, rugby, etc), these trials will take place in the first two weeks of term in September and for our summer activities (cricket, rounders, athletics, etc) these trials will take place in the first two weeks after the Easter holidays. Players and squads are generally picked from those students that attend trials and the subsequent training sessions. In some sports where we find it hard to conduct regular training sessions (cross country for example), students grades in core PE may be used to help the teacher in charge to select a strong squad.

My son or daughter missed the trials for a sport. Have they missed their chance to be selected for the squad?

Absolutely not! If a trial has been missed, students should attend the next training session. As previously mentioned, any student is welcome at any club or practice. However, for activities with large numbers of attendees, those that attend practices regularly will be prioritised for team selection.

Do you run "B" and "C" teams for students that are really keen to represent the school?

We try to organise as many as possible, especially for those sports that attract lots of students. For example, there are regular "multi-squad" fixtures in football, netball and rounders, while we will often use a squad rotation policy for sports such as rugby, basketball, cricket and athletics. "Multi-squad" fixtures can be dependent on the availability of the other schools necessary to provide the opposition.

My son or daughter is interested in a sport based career. Do you run any examination courses that might be useful for them?

We currently run a BTEC Sport Level 2 GCSE course from year 9-11. Students studying this could then progress onto A Level PE or BTEC Sport Level 3 in the 6th form. During students core PE lessons in year 9 and 10, students also have the option to follow a Sports Leadership Award (SLA), which they can then continue with into the 6th form (CSLA and HSLA). All of these qualifications would be useful for any student looking to study sport at university.

Do you run Saturday or weekend sports fixtures?

We don't run any regular Saturday or weekend fixtures, but on occasion some sports may have competitions or events over the weekend. It is usually only rounders, cross country, athletics and gymnastics that fall into this category.

Do you run activities / clubs in fencing, judo, etc?

The activities we run clubs in are published on our extra-curricular sports timetable. The timetable is updated each half term and can be found at <http://www.chalfonts.org/pe> Sports that are less main-stream than football or netball for example, or that require greater health and safety guidance, are unlikely to be catered for in school.

Do you accept offers from parents to help with coaching, fundraising or sponsorship?

Absolutely! If you have all the required coaching qualifications and you'd like to get involved, or if you'd like to assist with fundraising for school sport or you'd like to discuss sponsoring any of our sports teams or the school, please do get in touch. We're always looking for ways to improve our sports provision, raise the standards of our students and cater for our elite sports performers, so parental assistance is always welcomed!