

September 2024

Re: Extracurricular Clubs/Pupil Leadership/XL Award

Dear Parent/Carer,

I wanted to make you aware that we are running the 'XL Award for Participation in Extracurricular Activities and for Pupil Leadership'. This scheme encourages pupils to make the most of the many extracurricular clubs that we have on offer and to push themselves out of their comfort zone by trying something new, mixing with new pupils and by offering to volunteer with pupil leadership. Your child can earn XL points by attending clubs and by taking on a leadership role. This can either be in a specific role such as a Whole School Ambassador (I will be advertising when pupils can apply for this role, shortly) or a Year Group Ambassador for example, or through presenting publicly in lessons, helping out in school or setting a good example to the rest of the school community. When your child receives an XL point, you will be able to see this recorded on ClassCharts. They will add up and your child can receive either a bronze, silver or gold award, certificate and badge.

The skills learnt, and confidence gained by young people through their involvement in these sorts of activities is absolutely crucial for their development, and makes the experience of school more exciting and positive whilst filling up their CVs with lots of hobbies and interests that they can discuss in interviews for colleges etc.

Please click on this link https://www.hallgreen.bham.sch.uk/wp-content/uploads/2024/09/FINAL-Autumn-Term- Extracurricular-Activities-2024.pdf for a copy of the extracurricular clubs that your child may attend during the Autumn Term (you can also click on the front page of the website for a copy). All clubs are absolutely free, and we offer a wide range of activities before school, at lunchtime and after school.

If your child has never attended clubs, this does not matter- it is never too late to start, and they will be made very welcome. If your child used to attend clubs but has now dropped out; please encourage them to start again. If your child already attends clubs, this is brilliant, hopefully they will continue and they will have the opportunity to represent the school and they will be gaining points towards their XL Award, perhaps they would like to join another club too?

The link between strong academic achievement and extracurricular participation has been traced over many years. The social and mental benefits your child will receive along with the opportunity for them to develop their leadership skills (which are transferrable to all subject and future work areas), the chance to make new friends and learn new skills are invaluable. I hope to see your child getting involved. Yours Faithfully,

Mrs Paxton-Gault

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Assistant Headteacher

Engagement and Enrichment

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