



ST ALOYSIUS'  
COLLEGE

# PRIZES, COLOURS and AWARDS PROCEDURES

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**This document will be reviewed annually by: Elaine Craig, Head of Admissions & Wider Achievement**

## 1. Promoting a culture of achievement

The College seeks to promote a *culture of achievement* by recognising and rewarding excellence in academic work and commitment to co-curricular activities, the service of others, and to the life of the school and wider community. St Aloysius' College recognises achievement in a number of formal ways as described below.

## 2. Prize Giving

The College Prize Giving ceremony is a major event in the life of the school and takes place annually. Prize Giving is a special occasion at which the academic and wider achievements of pupils are publicly recognised and celebrated in formal surroundings.

### 2.1 Junior School Prizes

#### Subject Prizes

The Junior School pupils receive a book token awarded to pupils from Primary 4 – Primary 7 according to the following criteria:

- A prize is awarded in each subject to the pupil scoring the highest mark in the end of year exams.
- Should there be a tie between two or more pupils, the pupil with the highest average score in Modular and weekly assessments wins.
- Should there still be a tie this is discussed with the Head of the Junior School. The children's classwork, overall effort and commitment is then reviewed.
- Joint prizes are only awarded when there is no fairer option.

We have awards acknowledging commitment to school and academic life:

**The Aloysius Gonzaga Prize**

Awarded for outstanding contribution to Junior School life.

**The John Ogilvie Prize**

Awarded for all-round commitment to studies.

**The Ignatius Loyola Prize**

Awarded to the pupil who best exemplifies the characteristics of the Jesuit Pupil Profile.

**The Francis Xavier Prize**

Awarded to the pupil who has demonstrated a sensitivity to the environment and the need to protect nature and who has shown care towards 'our common home'.

**St Therese of Lisieux Prize**

Awarded to the pupil who would always have a positive, encouraging word for others or would carry out a simple unnoticed task to brighten the life of another.

**St Margaret of Scotland Prize**

Awarded to the pupil who has demonstrated a commitment to justice and charitable work.

**Schola Prizes**

Awarded to the choirster in each of the Schola Puellorum and Schola Puerorum who has shown outstanding commitment and excellence in performance.

## **2.2 Senior School Prizes**

**Subject Prizes**

These are book tokens. Generally, in each year group (S1-6) prizes are awarded as follows:

- A prize is awarded in each subject to the pupil scoring the highest mark in the Year or Public Examination.
- Should there be tie between two or more pupils, the pupil with the highest average score in Class Assessments wins.
- In S4-6 the winning pupil must achieve grade A.
- In the unlikely event that there should be a tie at this stage the Head of Department will discuss with the leadership team whether to set a decisive test or award a joint prize.
- Joint prizes are discouraged and only awarded when there is no fairer option.

**Gonzaga Prizes**

In each of S1-5 up to eight prizes are awarded for all-round effort and commitment, nominated by the Head of Year.

**Hanson Prizes**

Hanson Prizes are awarded to S5 pupils who achieve three Highers at A grade in the first sitting.

## Academic Colours

Academic Colours are awarded to S5 pupils who achieve five Highers at A grade in the first sitting.

## Other Prizes

A large number of other prizes are awarded for academic success, co-curricular commitment and sporting achievements.

## 3. Merit Certificates

### 3.1 Merit Certificates

Merit Certificates are awarded throughout the school for achievement or effort worthy of particular commendation, in studies, service to the school or community, sport or co-curricular activities. Staff will, termly, be asked to submit names of pupils who should be recognised by Merit Certificates.

### 3.2 Certificates of Academic Distinction

Certificates of Academic Distinction are awarded in the Senior School for excellence in studies and are primarily for **academic achievement**.

Certificates of Academic Distinction should be relatively uncommon and should typically be awarded to the top performing ten percent of a class in June, following Year Examinations.

### 3.3 The Fourth Year Academic Award Certificate

An Academic Award Certificate will be given to any pupil who achieves eight A-grades, at first sitting, in their National Level Five Examinations, when in Fourth Year. This award is a certificate, which is presented at Assembly.

## 4. Senior School Commitment Awards

### 4.1 Commitment Awards

Commitment Awards are designed to recognise and reward participation in all co-curricular activities. They can be awarded from S1-S6 with each year group having their own specific award, as follows:

Year Group	Commitment Award	When awarded
S1	Junior Green Award Badge	March & June
S2	Junior Yellow Award Badge	March & June
S3	Junior Red Award Badge	March & June
S4	Intermediate Award Badge	March & June
S5	Dates & Lettering	March & June
S6	Second Season Dates & Lettering	December & March

### Junior Award Badge

The Junior Award is a metal enamel lapel badge bearing the name of the sport or activity for which it is awarded (or the word "merit" if there is no specific badge available).

### **Intermediate Award Badge**

The Intermediate Award is a distinctive lapel badge bearing the College logo and the word 'Intermediate'. There are no specific intermediate badges for each activity.

### **Dates & Lettering (including Second Season Dates)**

The Dates & Lettering Award allows pupils to have their blazer pocket embroidered with the name of the sport or activity and the academic year in which they are awarded. S6 pupils who have already been awarded 'Dates & Lettering' can be awarded 'Second Season Dates'.

### **Commitment Award Criteria**

Commitment Awards are available to all pupils and assume **all** of the following:

- **80% attendance** at training sessions, practice sessions, rehearsals, or weekly lunchtime/afterschool sessions.
- **80% attendance** at matches, performances, or competitions for which selected (if applicable).
- In addition to attendance, undertaking a supporting/chorus role in the College's dramatic production
- Participation in House competition (if applicable) across academic term(s)

Please note, positive attitude, conduct and behaviour are expected across the commitment criteria. *Also, authorised absences discounted if arranged in advance.*

### **4.2 Service Award**

A key feature of Jesuit education is education in the service of others - encouraging pupils to put their time, talents and energies at the service of other people, particularly the less fortunate. The Service Award is designed to recognise and reward young people for their commitment to charitable work and the service of others.

Service is recognised through the awarding of a Service Tie.

The Director or Christian Formation will nominate pupils who demonstrate high levels of commitment in any of the following activities:

- Retreat Leadership
- Participation in the Children's Fund holiday
- Participation in the annual Lourdes pilgrimage.

The above list is intended to be indicative and should not be considered exhaustive. The Director of Christian Formation, along with the Extended Leadership Team, will consider service in its widest possible context and seek to recognise those who act as a 'man or woman for others'.

## 5. Senior School Colours Awards

Colours Awards are designed to recognise and reward achievement and excellence in all co-curricular activities. Colours can be awarded from S1-S6 and are recognised through the awarding of a Colours Tie.

The Colours Committee meet every term to consider nominations.

**Colours are awarded to those pupils meeting the Commitment Awards criteria and from any one of the following areas within the categories of Sporting, National/International, and Cultural:**

Year Group	Colours Award Criteria
	<b>SPORTING COLOURS CRITERIA</b>
<b>Sports</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Selected for 'Firsts' in 75% of matches</li> <li>Represent the College in a national or regional final in a recognised activity.</li> </ul>
	<b>SPORTING NATIONAL/ INTERNATIONAL COLOURS CRITERIA</b>
<b>Sporting National &amp; International</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Win a medal or be placed in a national competition in a recognised activity.</li> <li>Represent district, region, or country in a recognised activity.</li> </ul>
	<b>CREATIVE ARTS COLOURS AWARD CRITERIA</b>
<b>Music</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieve merit in Grade 5 or achieve Grade 6 or above in instrumental/singing exam (ABRSM, Trinity or similar)</li> <li>Achieve Silver Award or above from RSCM</li> <li>Represent the College in an external performance (regional/national band/choir or similar)</li> <li>Winning the Annual Music Festival</li> <li>Membership of St Aloysius' College Show Band.</li> </ul>
<b>Art</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Top 5 (S5) or top 3 (S6) placing in portfolio submissions</li> <li>Top 3 placing in the annual Art Competition</li> <li>Placing in external competitions such as the Specialist Crafts Catalogue Cover or Fringe Festival Poster competitions</li> </ul>
<b>Drama</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Achieve merit or above in LAMDA qualifications (or similar)</li> <li>Lead role in School Show or external performance (named character with solo singing/substantial speaking role)</li> <li>Gain a place to study with The National Youth Theatre Company (or similar).</li> </ul>
<b>Public Speaking &amp; Debating</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Reaching the Finals of the Rotary/Glasgow Speakers Competition or equivalent</li> <li>Reaching the second round of the Law Society of Scotland Debating Competition or equivalent</li> </ul>
<p><b>Key proviso to achieve recognition for Colours outwith the College:</b></p> <p><i>The onus is on pupil to inform the College of their achievement</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><i>Quantifiable evidence must be provided from the leader of external group in support.</i></li> </ul>	

***The above list is intended to be indicative and should not be considered exhaustive. Members of staff should bear in mind that the fundamental purpose of the awards system is to recognise and promote excellence and should be encouraged to nominate deserving pupils using professional discretion.***

## 6. Enquiries

The Colours Committee meet each term to consider nominations for awards and on occasion, to review criteria and other arrangements. The colours committee will:

- Use its judgement to weigh up teacher nominations
- Include other names which may have been overlooked or which have been brought to the committee's attention informally
- Consider in a positive and creative way, exceptional circumstances where standards have been met in a way that does not exactly match the normal criteria

In making awards, the Colours Committee must always bear in mind that the fundamental purpose of the awards system is to recognise and promote excellence in all areas of College life, within the context of human excellence, as well as to reward achievement. The detailed criteria for awards are listed below.

### 6.1 Avoiding problems

The College will do its very best to reward the achievements of all pupils appropriately and knows how important prizes and awards are. However, from time to time, a misunderstanding may occur or a mistake may be made. Most problems should hopefully be resolved if the pupil concerned simply speaks to the relevant member of staff.

### 6.2 Making an enquiry

If you have a *routine question* about an award in a *specific* activity, please contact the member of staff in charge of that activity e.g., you think you should have been given an award and you are not listed.

If you have a *general* enquiry about Prizes, Awards or Colours contact Mrs Craig ([ecraig@stalloysius.org](mailto:ecraig@stalloysius.org))

### 6.3 Making a complaint

If you are not satisfied after having contacted the member of staff in charge of an activity, or your parent/guardian considers it more appropriate, he or she should contact Mrs Craig ([ecraig@stalloysius.org](mailto:ecraig@stalloysius.org)) who will always take the complaint seriously and do everything possible to resolve the issue.

Elaine Craig

Head of Admissions and Wider Achievement

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This policy was last updated in December 2023

It will be reviewed again in December 2024