



12 December 2025

Dear Parent/Guardian

Berkshire Schools Cross Country Championships

Please find a letter below containing information for the Berkshire Schools Cross Country Championships being held on **Saturday 17 January 2026 at Newbury Showground, Berkshire**. Please note that entries must be made through schools; individual entries will not be accepted. If your child would like to take part, please contact Mr Flynn at J.Flynn@maidenerleghtrust.org

The competition is the county cross country championships for both boys and girls in years 7 to 13. This is held annually in January. The course is flat and varied with fields and trails. Anyone may enter this competition, and schools may enter as many athletes as they would like (there is no charge for entries). The first **4** athletes in each age group for the school will constitute the teams and schools may have as many teams as they would like (they may also have individuals). There are trophies for the top teams in each age group.

The letter below explains all the rules and key aspects of the competition. The schools need students to enter by no later than **FRIDAY 9 JANUARY 2026**. There will be **NO late additions after this date**.

A reminder that age groups are different to other sports e.g. netball / football etc. A year 7 would usually be U12 but in cross country it is U13 as the age is taken on 31 August. A table of dates of birth and age groups is shown on the letter for your information. Pupils must be entered into the correct age group and cannot run 'up' or 'down' an age group.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with a member of the PE department.

Yours sincerely

Mr J Flynn
Head of Physical Education





**BERKSHIRE SCHOOLS ATHLETIC
ASSOCIATION
(FOUNDED IN 1925)**

Cross Country Secretary
Ms Jill Wright
32 Church Road
Chavey Down
Ascot
Berks SL5 8RR
Tel: 01344 885475

Cross Country Secretary
Mrs Pip Kirkby
Dolphin School
Waltham Road
Hurst, Reading, Berkshire
RG10 0FR
Tel: 07966281684

BERKSHIRE SCHOOLS CROSS COUNTRY CHAMPIONSHIPS
Saturday 17th January 2026 12.45pm
Newbury Showground, Newbury, Berkshire

CHAMPIONSHIP EVENTS

12.45pm	Under 13 Girls	2.5km approx.
1.05pm	Under 13 Boys	2.5km approx.
1.20pm	Senior Boys (U19)	6.15km approx.
1.45pm	Intermediate Girls (U17) And Senior Girls (U19)	3.8km approx.
2.15pm	Junior Boys (U15)	3.2km approx.
2.35pm	Junior Girls (U15)	3.2km approx.
2.50pm	Intermediate Boys (U17)	4.5km approx.

Please Note:

1. There are no changing facilities available, please come ready.
2. Toilet facilities will be in ~~portaloos~~ as showground toilets are closed for the winter.
3. Closing date for entries is **FRIDAY 9th JANUARY 2026** (No payment required)
4. All competitors should wear school PE or athletics kit. Club vests should not be worn.
5. Declarations will be in a tent between the start and the finish.
6. Runners and Spectators should enter the Showground using the Trentham Gate (that is the black one closest to the A34), and park as directed. There will be a small charge for parking.

Competition rules:

1. A school may enter as many runners as it likes. You do not have to enter a team; individuals can also be entered. If at least 4 runners are entered in each race, then the first 4 runners in will constitute the 'A' team, the second 4 the 'B' team etc.
2. Athletes must be accompanied on the day by an adult team manager, who may be a teacher or a person e.g., parent approved by the school.
3. Entries **WILL NOT** be accepted on the day. All entries must be made to the cross-country secretary by the date set.
4. **All schools entering athletes must be affiliated with the Berkshire Schools Athletics Association prior to the competition. Any school not affiliated could lead to their athletes not being allowed to run or progress through to the next rounds of the competition.**



5. Please arrive at the registration table at least 45 minutes before your first race. You will then receive your numbers and envelopes. The school's nominated team manager will be the only one allowed to collect the numbers / envelopes for their school. They should then distribute these out to their athletes. Numbers will not be given out to individuals.
6. Numbers will be provided on the day. **PINS WILL NOT BE PROVIDED. PLEASE BRING YOUR OWN.**
7. A disc indicating finishing position will be handed to each runner at the end of the race. This must be handed to the team manager who should place it in the envelope provided with the result written on the front and then the envelope must be handed in as soon as possible to the results officials near to the finish.
8. Complete results should be available on the day. There will be presentations of medals for the top 3 individuals and trophies and certificates for the top teams during the afternoon so please ensure that your athletes stay for these.
9. The top 16 athletes in each age group (except U13) will be selected to represent Berkshire at the Inter Counties event to be held on **Saturday 31st January** at Felston school, Essex. Selection for the English Schools Championships on **Saturday 14th March** at Sefton Park, Liverpool will be made based on performance at the county and inter county championships.
THIS SELECTION DOES NOT APPLY TO U13 ATHLETES (YEAR 7'S)
10. Entries are to be done by email. Please complete the attached entry forms with Full Names and Dates of Birth and return by email to Pip Kirkby on berkshireschoolsaa@gmail.com

Please ensure athletes are entered in the correct age group. Be aware that cross country / athletics age groups differ to other sports e.g. a year 7 in Netball is U12 whereas in Cross Country they are U13. This is taken from their age at the end of the academic year i.e., 31st August 2026.

Age groups:

Under 13	Academic year 7	Born between	01.09.13 & 31.08.14
Under 15	Academic years 8/9	Born between	01.09.11 & 31.08.13
Under 17	Academic years 10/11	Born between	01.09.09 & 31.08.11
Under 19	Academic years 12/13	Born between	01.09.07 & 31.08.09

Results and any other information will be posted on the school's section of the Berkshire Athletics Association Website <https://www.berkshireathletics.org.uk/schools/>
 And Twitter – <https://twitter.com/BerksSchoolsAA>
 And Facebook – <https://www.facebook.com/BerkshireSchoolsAA>
 Or email - [Berkshireschoolsaa@gmail.com](mailto:berkshireschoolsaa@gmail.com)

We look forwards to receiving your entries and to seeing you on Saturday 17th January 2026 at Newbury.

Best Wishes

Pip Kirkby & Jill Wright

Berkshire Cross Country Secretaries.

**PLEASE COMPLETE THE ATTACHED ENTRY FORMS AND RETURN TO PIP
 KIRKBY BY FRIDAY 9th JANUARY 2026 BY EMAIL
 (berkshireschoolsaa@gmail.com)**

