REGENT HOUSE SCHOOL
Honours Policy

Updated September 2015
AIMS

“Central to the educational philosophy of Regent House is the belief that each pupil should be encouraged to fulfil his/her potential in a concerned and caring environment.”

In furtherance of the School’s aim of encouraging pupils to realise their full potential and the School’s strong belief in the value of extra-curricular activities, we acknowledge our role in rewarding those pupils who, through their endeavour and commitment, have achieved high standards in areas other than the academic.

1. Awards Structure
   1.1 Honours will be awarded to pupils participating in extra-curricular activities based on the three essential criteria of personal achievement; contribution to school; and representing the school.
   1.2 The Honours system exists as a progressive structure.
   1.3 **Silver**: Awarded to pupils from Year 10 on in recognition of significant achievement within and contribution to, a recognised Regent House extra-curricular activity. Pupils awarded with a Regent House Honours lapel badge.
   1.4 Significant achievement and contribution, is defined here as consistently high levels of performance within or, commitment to, a recognised Regent House extra-curricular activity.
   1.5 **Gold**: Awarded to pupils from Year 12 on in recognition of the achievement of excellence within and extraordinary contribution to, a recognised Regent House extra-curricular activity. Pupils awarded with a Regent House Honours tie.
   1.6 Excellence and extraordinary contribution, is defined here as achieving elite status within or, displaying the equivalent commitment to, a recognised Regent House extra-curricular activity.
   1.7 **Representative Colours**: Awarded to pupils in Year 12 on in recognition of representing the school at an elite provincial or national level within a recognised Regent House extra-curricular activity. Pupils awarded with a Regent House Colours blazer pocket.
   1.8 Representing the school at an elite provincial or national level is defined here as competing / participating under the name of Regent House for Ulster, Northern Ireland, or Ireland at an elite level in a recognised Regent House extra-curricular activity.
   1.9 Owing to this definition, not all activities will facilitate the award of Representative Colours.

2. Honours Committee
   2.1 The Honours Committee is made up of single representatives from the Senior Management Team; Physical Education Department; Music Department; English and Drama Department; and a representative from an additional department.
   2.2 A Chairperson and Secretary will be elected on nominations from within the committee with each nomination seconded by additional committee
member. On the occasion that more than one member is nominated for a position, the decision will be settled by a sealed vote.

2.3 The presence of four members of the committee will constitute a quorum.

2.4 The Honours Committee will convene during the months of October, January, May and June to ratify applications for Honours; to revise the list of award activities recognised; and revise the awards criteria as required.

2.5 Full minutes of each meeting will be taken by the elected Committee Secretary.

3. Applying for Honours

3.1 The members of staff in charge of an extra-curricular activity within the Regent Total Curriculum, and officially approved by the Honours Committee, should nominate pupils in writing, to the Chairperson of the Honours Committee on the following dates:

- Last week of September
- First weeks of January, May and June

3.2 Applications for Honours must be made during the period of participation. Where commitment to an extra-curricular activity has ceased, Honours will not be awarded retrospectively.

3.3 Decisions made by the Honours Committee will be proposed to the Principal for consideration and approval.

3.4 The Principal reserves the right to:

- refer any nominations back to the Honours Committee for further consideration;
- to deny Honours to pupils who have failed to uphold the Regent House Code of Conduct;
- to revoke Honours already awarded where a serious breach of the Code of Conduct is committed;
- to revoke Honours already awarded where pupils fail to maintain their commitment to the extra-curricular activity through which the award was attained.

3.5 Appeals against a Committee decision not to award Honours should be submitted in writing through the Honours Committee to the Principal, by the teacher in charge of that specific activity.

3.6 In exceptional circumstances the Committee reserve the right, in consultation with the Principal, to consider individual cases outside of the recognised activities for the award of Honours.

4. Presentation of Awards

4.1 Honours will be awarded to pupils by the Principal following his ratification of decisions proposed by the Honours Committee.

4.2 Honours will be awarded at the following times throughout the academic year:

- School Assemblies in October, January and May
- The School Sports Assembly in June

4.3 In exceptional circumstances and with the agreement of the Principal, Honours may be awarded on other occasions.

4.4 Pupils awarded Honours will receive an Honours Certificate and will be entitled to wear the respective emblem to the level of Honours attained.
4.5 The lapel badge and tie can be obtained from the Regent House School office.
4.6 The Honours blazer pocket can be obtained from the nominated retailer on the presentation of an Honours Acknowledgement Note which can be obtained from the Principal’s secretary.

5. List of Recognised Activities
5.1 Sport.
5.2 Music
5.3 Drama
5.4 Art

6. Criteria for Award of Honours
6.1 Each activity recognised within the Regent House Honours system has compiled progressive activity specific criteria aligned to the three essential criteria of personal achievement; contribution to school; and representing the school.
6.2 General Criteria for the Award of and Honours includes:
   ▪ Regent House Honours are only awarded for participation within a recognised Regent House extra-curricular activity
   ▪ Aligned with the three essential criteria, pupils must demonstrate continuity of performance and commitment to a recognised Regent House extra-curricular activity over a minimum of two seasons / academic years
6.3 The Honours Pocket will be awarded each year to the incoming Head Boy and Head Girl.

7. Sport
7.1 Silver Award:
   ▪ Awarded to pupils who have demonstrated a significant commitment and contribution over three seasons to a senior team below first team level.
   ▪ Awarded to pupils from Year 10 on who have been placed 1st, 2nd, or 3rd in a minimum of 3 provincial / national schools’ championships.
   ▪ Awarded to pupils from Year 10 on who have represented the school on a junior provincial / national school's representative team (e.g. U14 / U15). The pupil must take the field of play during a full inter-provincial / inter-national match / championships to qualify for the RHS Silver Award.
   ▪ Swimming: participation in a minimum of 8 Schools’ Galas; qualification and participation in 2 individual finals at intermediate level; and placed the top 3 in a minimum of 1 individual event at intermediate level.
   ▪ Athletics: participation in a minimum of 3 Ulster Schools Championships; qualification and participation in 2 individual finals at intermediate level; and placed in the top 3 in a minimum of 1 event (including relays).
   ▪ Golf: participation in a minimum of 3 Ulster Schools Championships and be placed in the top 3 in a minimum of 1 competition.

7.2 Gold Award:
   ▪ Awarded to pupils who have represented the school on a senior first level team for a minimum of 10 competitive fixtures.
- Awarded to pupils from Year 12 on who have represented the school in a minimum of 3 provincial / national schools’ championships at U16, U17 or U18 level.
- Awarded to pupils from Year 12 on who have represented the school on an intermediate provincial / national school’s representative team (e.g. U16 / U17). The pupil must take the field of play during a full inter-provincial / inter-national match / competition to qualify for the RHS Gold Award.
- **Swimming**: participation in a minimum of 10 Schools’ Galas; qualification and participation in 2 individual finals at intermediate or senior level; and placed in the top 3 in a minimum of 2 events (including relays).
- **Athletics**: participation in a minimum of 3 Ulster Schools Championships / Irish Championships; qualification and participation in 2 individual finals at intermediate or senior level; and placed in the top 3 in a minimum of 2 events (including relays).
- **Golf**: participation in a minimum of 3 Ulster Schools Championships and be placed in the top 3 in a minimum of 2 competitions.

7.3 **Representative Award:**
- Awarded to pupils in Year12 on who have represented the school on a senior provincial / national school’s representative team (e.g. U18 / U19).
- The pupil must take the field of play during a full inter-provincial / inter-national match / competition to qualify for the RHS Representative Award.
- To attain representative honours in Golf, pupils must qualify for the Irish Schools’ Senior Matchplay Championship and be placed in the top 3.

8. **Music**

8.1 **Silver Award:**
- Awarded to pupils who have attained Grade 5 (ABRSM or Trinity-Guildhall only) on any musical instrument or voice; have performed at two Spring Concerts and two Carol Services with a School Music Group; and performed at two “outside” concerts with a School Music Group

8.2 **Gold Award:**
- Awarded to pupils who have attained Grade 7 (ABRSM or Trinity-Guildhall only) on any musical instrument or voice; have performed at two Spring Concerts or two Carol Services with a Senior School Music Group; and performed at two “outside” concerts with a Senior School Music Group

8.3 **Representative Award:**
- Awarded to pupils who have attained Grade 8 (ABRSM or Trinity-Guildhall only) on any musical instrument or voice; have performed at a minimum of three Spring Concerts or three Carol Services with a Senior School Music Group; and have been selected and perform as a member of the Ulster Youth Orchestra or Ulster Youth Choir for a minimum of one season.

9. **Drama**

9.1 **Silver Award:**
- Awarded to pupils on who have demonstrated a commitment to Drama within the school by performing in three or more productions; at least one of which being a Senior school production.
- Awarded to pupils who have demonstrated a commitment to Drama within the school by performing in two main roles in Junior productions.
- Awarded to pupils who have demonstrated a commitment to Drama within the school by serving on backstage production teams for three years; two of which being Senior school productions.

**Gold Award:**
- Awarded to pupils who have demonstrated a commitment to Drama within the school by performing in three or more main roles; at least two of which being Senior school productions. In exceptional circumstances, it may be appropriate to award Gold Honours to a pupil who came to Regent House in Sixth Form.

9.2 **Representative Award:**
- Awarded to pupils in Year 12 on who, in addition to fulfilling the requirements for Gold Honours as listed above, have become members of the National Youth Theatre and performed a significant role in at least one province-wide production.

10. **Art**

10.1 **Silver Award:**
- Awarded to Year 10 pupils on who have demonstrated a commitment to and a high level performance in the extra curricular art club, film club, or art society over a minimum of two academic years and have represented the school at provincial or national level in a minimum of two external competitions.

10.2 **Gold Award:**
- Awarded to Year 12 pupils on who have demonstrated a commitment to and a high level of performance in the extra curricular art club, film club, or art society over a minimum of two academic years; have represented the school at national level in a minimum of two external competitions, being placed in at least one national level competition; and have demonstrated commitment and a significant contribution to school community art projects over a minimum of two academic years.

11. **Technology and Engineering**

11.1 **Silver Award:**
- Awarded to pupils who have demonstrated a significant commitment to the Sentinus Team R&D; achieved a minimum of 70% across the 11 specific criteria as marked by the panel of judges appointed by Sentinus; and won a minimum of 1 award at the Regional Finals.

11.2 **Gold Award:**
- Awarded to pupils who have demonstrated a significant commitment to the Sentinus Team R&D by achieving a minimum of 80% across the 11 specific criteria as marked by the panel of judges appointed by Sentinus; won a minimum of 2 awards at the Regional Finals; and competed at National Level for F1 in Schools.
11.3 **Representative Award:**
- Awarded to pupils in Year 12 on who, in addition to fulfilling the requirements for Gold Honours as listed above, have competed at the F1 in Schools World Championship in representing Northern Ireland in an individual or collaborative team.