Cothill Policy Documents

ISSR 29 Sport & Games including Risk Assessments

NMS for Boarding: 10.1

Date: September 2025
Next review: September 2026

Objective

The priority of this department is for every pupil to develop technically, physically, socially, and psychologically and leave the school having had a positive experience of sport, with foundations in place for them to engage with physical activity in the long-term. In addition, one of our principle aims for everyone involved in sport at Cothill (be they coaches, pupils, or parents) is to feel that their experience has been enjoyable. It is the responsibility of the department to make sure this happens. Appropriate actions will be taken by senior members of the department to explain and clarify decisions to the concerned parties, be they pupils, staff, parents or visitors, through INSETs, seminars, and other less formal forms of communication.

Games

Games sessions take place for all pupils on most days of the week. Match days for most pupils are on Wednesdays and Saturdays with some fixtures on Tuesdays for Year 3 & 4 pupils. For rugby fixtures and big events such as festivals or matches involving parents, full medical cover is provided by an external first aid company. On other matchdays our school nurses will provide medical cover.

Cothill has extensive grounds where the pitches are located and where pupils can play in their free time, including outdoor cricket nets, tennis courts and a golf course.

Staff are provided with information, instruction, training and supervision, so far as is reasonably possible, to ensure the health and safety of all pupils during these sessions. At the start of each term, a departmental meeting is held by the Director of Sport, and an important part of this meeting is the identification of risk and clear instruction regarding correct procedures. This is supplemented by further meetings at regular intervals throughout the term if there is any further information to add regarding the safeguarding of pupils during games, such as new legislation or a change of rules & procedures.

Staff who coach rugby attend seminars run by qualified RFU coaches, while no staff are able to supervise sessions in the school pool without the relevant qualification. Some staff have been sent on coaching seminars in a variety of sports we cover, and there is an expectation for sports coaches to attend training and CPD events. This is to ensure that a representative from the school is aware of any changes in procedures or practice across the whole spectrum of sports which they can subsequently share with the rest of the Staffroom. Mouthguards, fitted by Opro, are worn for rugby and hockey.

Home and Away Matches

The following points should be borne in mind if you are in charge of any home or away match.

Team lists*

Team lists must be completed by 7pm on the evening before the day of the match by entering all necessary information into the SOCS programme. The necessary links are available via the 'Teams' link on the School Intranet. Also on the Intranet, in the 'Help' section, is a video tutorial which outlines how this software is used. Teams are uploaded by coaches onto Socs and then appear on the TV screen in the dining room for the pupils to see.

On the morning of matchdays, copies of team lists should be sent by the Sports Department to the School Office, the kitchens and the Matrons' office. Staff taking minor sports should ensure the relevant paperwork is made available to the matron team and the School Office.

The team list states the full name (including initials) of those pupils taking part. It states the day/date of the match, the venue, the time of the match and the time of departure (if away) and lunch instructions, if different to normal arrangements.

If there are any subsequent changes to any of the above details, the Matrons and the Office should be informed immediately.

If the match is not on a standard match day (Wednesday & Saturday), check with the kitchen the day before the match, to ensure all arrangements are correct and an early lunch is available for the team (if needed), if special refreshments are needed for the journey or if an early match tea is required for parents and pupils.

Staff should check with the matron and nurse teams before setting off in case they need to take any medication or special food for pupils and also that they are all in good health, properly dressed with plenty of warm clothing if it is wet and cold or with sun hats and sun cream if very hot. Staff should also ensure they take a first aid kit and any important medication such as epipens. Staff should take their phones with them in case of emergency.

Match day lunch

On a Wednesday and Saturday the away teams will have their own sitting (First Lunch) in the junior dining room. They will be ticked off by the second duty member of staff, or a senior member of the sports department, or gap student. It will be important to closely coordinate the two tick off lists. From lunch, pupils will go to the loo, collect the requisite sports equipment and meet their member of staff and other teammates outside the Complex. Once all of the team's kit is put into the team bags and the member of staff has registered their team, the whole team will walk down to the transport together. Remember the entire cohort is only as fast as the slowest pupil or member of staff, so a sense of urgency is important, though not a sense of panic. Arriving in good time at away matches is crucial for the pupils preparation, and allowing them to do their best on the pitches.

Home match day procedure

Pupils in home matches and all pupils not in matches will change at 12.40pm. They will then queue along the changing room corridor, in the usual way, for 2nd lunch. They will stay until grace, and listen for notices from their member of staff, who will direct them either to a team talk with them or a short break. Members of staff should aim to be out on the pitches by 2.10pm at the latest for football and rugby or 2pm for cricket. They will not need to wait at the roundabout to greet their opponents. The intention is for the coach to be with their team warming them up in readiness for the match. The arriving teams will be greeted and looked after by a member of the Meet & Greet team and shown to the loos in the Sports Centre. There will be a pitchmap as well as a meet and greet member of staff to point them in the right direction.

Visiting teams changing procedure*

Mostly, visiting teams will come changed and leave changed. However, if weather demands, see below for the changing procedure:

Visiting teams should be directed into the sports centre changing rooms on arrival to use the loos there. A member of the meet and greet team will be down there to oversee who goes where. Another meet and greet team member will show the visiting staff to the bathroom as required.

After the matches, the visiting teams will head home in tracksuits without showering. It is important they do not take their muddy boots into the sports centre, but must remove them at the door.

After matches

Please check that all the Cothill pupils act as hosts and bring the visiting team straight over to match tea after fixtures finish. Pupils should say farewell as their match tea table or may wish to go into the yard to say goodbye. This is simply good manners and is an important part of our culture. The coach in charge must also make sure that the visiting parents are shown to match tea. Games staff are to take their teams into the changing rooms and supervise changing and showers, ensuring the required kit is put into the laundry mollies.

Injuries

Full details of injuries must be recorded on an Incident Form (in Matrons' office) once the visiting school has left.

Away match day procedure

Pupils in away matches will change quickly during short break, getting kit handed to them in the changing rooms. Mostly, pupils will depart changed and return changed, putting on tracksuits after the matches to keep dry and keep the buses clean if there is adverse weather. The pupils will put their boots and shinpads etc in the team bags outside the

Complex ready for a swift departure. Duty staff and matrons will oversee the process, reminding pupils and patrolling the changing rooms and boot room.

Transport

Teams should sit together on the buses with their member of staff in close proximity. Staff should be spread throughout the bus to ensure good behaviour and keep the pupils calm before arriving at the opposition schools. If a member of staff is driving a minibus, the usual rules will apply. Staff must ensure that pupils leave the minibus or coach looking tidy and smart.

Afterwards

The captain of each team must be reminded to thank the host school for tea. On returning to Cothill, each pupil will empty the team bags of boots and shin pads, etc, and dirty match kits should be put in the appropriate laundry mollies. All clothes and socks should be pulled out the right way round and placed in the correct molly. Done properly, this saves hours of work for the laundry team and is much appreciated. Check to see if pupils require showers or tea. If so, they must be supervised. Please check that the changing rooms / dorms have been left clean and tidy and that all the kit, mouthguards etc are packed up and the matrons thanked. First aid kits and specific medication, like epipens, should be returned to the matrons' office. Water bottles and clipboards can be left outside the Complex to be tidied by the gap students or put in RFG's classroom if wet. Coaches should supervise their teams until these procedures have been completed.

Full details of injuries must be recorded on an Incident Form (in Matron's office).

See the *Boarding Policy* with regard to allowing pupils to travel with their parents, go out after matches, etc. In brief, they may travel back to school with parents, but they must get permission from the pupil's sports coach, and a note be taken of the name. Parents may not take any pupils other than their own children, unless it has been specifically cleared by the School Office for a good reason. If children leave with parents directly from a fixture, staff must check with parents that they are signed out on Orah.

Any bad behaviour during the journey or at another school must be reported to the Deputy Head Pastoral or Head.

Staying Safe in a Thunderstorm

Before the Storm
When you hear thunder you are already within range of where the next ground flash may occur, lightning can strike as far as 10 miles away from the centre of a storm. Consider going indoors.

During the Thunderstorm
• *Go indoors immediately.*
• *If caught outside, avoid water and find a low lying, open place that is a safe distance from trees, poles or metal objects.*

• If you are playing golf or cycling or scootering, stop immediately.
• Be aware of objects that can conduct or attract lightning, including trees, goal posts, golf clubs, umbrellas, bicycles, scooters and wire fencing.
• If you find yourself in an exposed location it may be advisable to squat close to the ground, with hands on knees and with head tucked between them. Try to touch as little of the ground with your body as possible. Do not lie down on the ground
• If you feel your hair stand on end, drop to the above position immediately.

Football, Rugby & Hockey Risk Assessment

Playing Area	
Hazard	Control Measures
Playing surfaces are visibly free from stones/glass/dog faeces.	*Coaches check the ground before a game or training sessions.* *Light levels are adequate.*
Hydration & warmth	*Water available in hot weather; warm clothing provided for reserves, etc.*
The ground condition e.g. not frozen or too hard for contact.	*Coaches check the ground before a game or training sessions.*
Posts and netting	*Groundstaff to check posts and nets and properly fitted and secure;* *pupils reminded not to play with the posts and nets.*

Players' Clothing	
Hazard	Control Measures
Suitable clothing worn at all times	*Referee or coach to check studs and ensure none are worn or have rough edges.* *No jewellery of any sort is permitted.*
Suitable footwear worn at all times	*Football:* *Only football boots or trainers to be worn for training / playing matches.* *Shin pads to be worn by all pupils whenever playing or training, spares available, but pupils should have their own.* *Rugby:* *Rugby boots and studs should conform to BS636 (1983) and World Rugby Kit*

Damage to mouths & teeth	*Regulations. Most pupils now wear football boots for rugby with moulded studs however.* *Cothill has a policy relating to mouth guards. We use custom-fitted O-pro mouthguards. Correctly fitted mouth guards are worn during rugby & hockey training and match activities.*

Registration and Medical Info	
Hazard	Control Measures
The need to contact parents in an emergency or pass on vital medical information to medical professionals. See the matrons upstairs for advice. Specific medical needs of squad: First Aid	*Squad management to ensure that this information is kept up to date, and is available when the squad trains or plays.* *An email alert is sent out to team takers before each match about which pupil in their team has allergies / asthma etc.* *All staff have a basic first aid bag on them at away matches.* *Coaches are trained in how to administer an epipen.* *Check first aid equipment is in good order and that medical supplies are adequate.* *A first aid trained person is available and a phone is working to contact emergency services.* *At all home matches, there is a fully trained and qualified First Aider on standby, either a school nurse or an external first aider for rugby fixtures.*

Safeguarding and Player Injury & Supervision of Training or Playing
Checks made that changing arrangements conform with safeguarding protocols. *Players supervised to prevent horseplay that might lead to accidents.* *Coaches to ensure that contact training is appropriate and supervised. Warm up exercises prepare players for intense activity/matches.* *School to ensure authorised, experienced, trained and qualified coaches are present.* *Referees and coaches monitor play and control team conduct on and off the field. If the game is seriously imbalanced due to physical/skill levels, games may be halted or some players may be removed.*

All rugby matches to follow the law of the RFU, where every pupil in the team (including subs) plays at least half the game
Spectators advised of expected standards of conduct and inappropriate behaviour/language challenged if necessary.
As far as possible, appointed Referees are checked to ensure they possess sufficient experience/standard for the match.

Rugby:
Referees and coaches monitor play, especially scrums for safety and control team conduct on and off the field.

Astro

Our new astro was built opened in May 2026. The astro will be used for tennis lessons, hockey training and netball training.

Pupils can use the astro turf in their free time for tennis but must always wear trainers and not school shoes to avoid marking it.

Pupils must also not touch or move any of the equipment on the astro such as netball posts, tennis nets and hockey goals. This includes the central dividing net. Equipment should only be moved by staff members to ensure safety of the pupils.

Pupils will be briefed each term to ensure they understand the usage of the astro.

Cricket Nets

Pupils are allowed to play cricket in the cricket nets during their free time, provided they adhere to the guidelines laid down by the Director of Sport at the start of term.
pupils are briefed to wear full protection at all times when playing with a hard ball in nets. This includes wearing a helmet at all times when batting or keeping wicket, as well as wearing a box, pads, gloves and suitable footwear.

Pupils are also briefed to use common sense whilst playing, such as storing equipment away from the net playing area, to avoid any potential injuries or accidents. Furthermore, pupils batting are encouraged to play the ball along the ground and avoid hitting out or slogging, to minimise risk of injury to others. Staff on duty are briefed to monitor the nets on a regular basis as part of their responsibilities.

Nets are roped off if unfit for play due to rain if it makes them a safety hazard. Pupils are informed of this and are forbidden to play under such conditions. Pupils are not allowed to use the grass nets unless supervised by a member of staff. This is to prevent undue wear and tear.

Golf

Pupils are allowed to play golf during their free time on the nine hole course contained within the School grounds. pupils receive coaching and supervision from the golf professional, which includes health and safety information as well as golfing etiquette. pupils are briefed not to go on the greens unless playing golf and are expected to play with the correct clubs and equipment. Pupils are given a 'Golf Licence' once they have passed their golf test which shows how and when to use a putter, how to tee off safely and how to replace divots as well as general course etiquette. The golf professional oversees this in conjunction with the Director of Sport. If a pupil is found to be abusing the course, they will have their licence removed and not be allowed to play for a certain amount of time.

Pupils are notified if the course is unfit for use in the case of bad weather. Pupils are also informed of the necessity of taking due care when playing the ball, to check there are no other pupils in the way when taking a shot.

Athletics

Pupils will only use athletics equipment (e.g. javelins, shot, discus, hurdles, etc) during timetabled games sessions or after prep sessions with a member of Staff. Pupils are briefed as to correct procedures. High jump, javelin and hurdles are not attempted if the ground is wet and slippery.

Mobile Goals Policy and Procedure

The school now has multiple sets of mobile goals which should be used to make the pitches smaller when necessary. These must ONLY BE MOVED BY MEMBERS OF STAFF. The pupils are not allowed to help. They are potentially dangerous as they are very heavy. There are two types, one set with two wheels and a few sets with four wheels. The sets with four wheels can be moved by a single member of staff, but the one set with only two wheels MUST be moved by TWO MEMBERS OF STAFF. A member of the ground staff will always be happy to help if they are around.

Use of Pitches During Games

It is important for everyone to be responsible for the wear and tear of the pitches which they are using. The best policy is one of common sense, by which training should take place as much as possible on any grids provided, and on different sections of the pitch during a games session. In wet conditions the pitches can be used but use the whole pitch, rather than just one small section. If a small section for training is needed, the grids should be used. Please be careful not just to use the area of the pitch closest to the school. Be aware that your pitch may need to be closed / rested if it becomes too worn. See the Director of Sport if you have any questions.

Frost

It is crucial that the golf greens are not walked on during times of frost as it leaves black footprints on the ground, which can take several months to recover. On frosty morning pupils walking over from Bowlers should make sure they stick to the perimeter of the pitches, under the trees, and behind the first 1st XI pavilion. If the pitches are frozen on a match day, any matches will be cancelled.

Storage

There are storage facilities for both staff and pupils located around the school.
The Sports Shed is where pupils keep their cricket bags and the Golf Hut is where pupils keep their golf equipment. Those playing in Game 1 will store their bags in the 1st XI pavilion and those in Colts 1 will store them in the Colts pavilion. During the autumn and spring terms, the Sports Shed, Colts pavilion, Firsts Scorebox, Blackhorse scorebox, and the Athletics Shed is used for storing game balls and everyday kit. Pupils are provided with specific balls to play with in the yard with 'YARD' written on. These are limited in number so will need to be looked after.
Inside the Sports Shed is The Stable, a section with a padlock that is used as a storage facility where pupils are not allowed to go. No pupil is allowed in there without a member of staff.

External tennis coaches keep their equipment in the Colts pavilion behind the tennis courts.

All PE and lots of other sports equipment will now be stored in the large storage in the sports centre. These should only be accessed by staff and must be locked at all times when leaving the facility.

Floodlights

In 2018 we took delivery of 10 mobile floodlights. These are powerful enough to light an area of about 60 metres by 40 metres (an average schoolpupils' sized football pitch). The best way to think of these lights is as our outdoor sports hall, and they give us the opportunity to continue playing and coaching when the sun has gone down.

They will be set up, and taken down, by ADULTS only. Pupils are not to touch them, even helping take them back to where they are being stored in the golf shed. This is important, as the stands and lights cost over £500 per unit, and they need to be handled with care and responsibly.

The Gap students will be trained and overseen by the Director of Sport, or other senior games staff, in how best to put them up and take them down as and when needed. They may only be used when a member of Staff is present, i.e they must not be set up and left for the pupils to play under. The chance of an accident, due to their mobile nature, is real, and the area must be supervised.

The stands are stored in the Sports Shed, and the lights are stored and charged there too. They should be put on charge immediately after use, as a matter of course, even if they have only been used for a short time. The charge cycle is 8 hours, and the batteries, on full power, last for 2 hours.

Bowling Machines

In 2017, after a generous parental donation, we invested in four Bola junior bowling machines. These give us the opportunity to coach cricket in a new way, and give any pupil the chance to develop their batting with highly repetitive practice.

In 2023, we have also ordered a new Bola Pro bowling machine, which will be used in the sports centre for winter nets as well as outdoors in the summer months.

The machines are used in games sessions in the summer term, and after prep sessions during other parts of the school year. There are specifically designed orange or yellow balls, and no other type of ball should be put through them.

Any pupils in the vicinity of the machines must be trained in how they work, and the dangers they present. Such dangers include:

- Walking in front of the machine while it is running
- Having the ball speed set too fast
- Having the direction of the machine poorly lined up
- Getting fingers or clothing caught in moving parts
- The machine falling over, if hit or moved
- The battery becoming a trip hazard if not placed correctly under the machine
- pupils being unattended while the machines are on

Pupils are allowed to help with the management of the machines, and should be encouraged to help clear up, set up the machine and help with its smooth running. If they want to adjust anything (like speed, or direction) they must first seek, and get, the permission of a member of Staff, who should oversee that this is done safely. Responsibilities like these are important for a pupil's confidence, learning and contributions, even if they are not batting or bowling, but must be carefully managed by coaches and staff.

The machines are stored in the Sports Centre or Sports Shed, or the 1st XI pavilion during the summer term. Pupils should be encouraged to help tidy them away but are only allowed to carry legs or batteries. The heads must be carried by an adult, and put away neatly and carefully after each session. The batteries must also be put on charge after use, in the golf shed. They take 8 hours to charge. The Gap Students will set the machines up before games sessions, weather permitting.

Any training, problems or worries about using the machine should be addressed to the Director of Sport.

Electronic Scoreboard

In the early summer of 2019 we took delivery of an electronic scoreboard, a gift from the leavers of that term. It is an extremely expensive, and heavy, piece of equipment. It must only be moved by adults. It is powered by mains electricity, and an app on a nearby iPhone. It is stored in the open, behind the 1st XI pavilion. It is used for match days as a cricket scoreboard, and for events such as Rockhill, or for showing films in the summer term. Management of it comes under the sports department, but it is a whole school piece of equipment. It will continue to be used on match days during the autumn and spring terms. *Staff using this scoreboard must be aware of the potential trip hazard caused by the power cable and should endeavour to highlight this risk to those in the vicinity*.

Sports Centre equipment

We have lots of expensive sports equipment in the sports centre. These include table tennis tables, rowing ergs, stationary bikes, a ski erg, a stroller, netball hoops, basketball hoops, cricket mats and lots of other equipment.

Staff using the Sports Centre must closely supervise pupils using the equipment to ensure its safe use. Staff present are responsible for tidying all equipment away and locking the storage cupboards, and leaving the keys in the Sports Centre office.

Cothill is a member of the IAPS, so the following terms and conditions should be read and understood by all games staff.

SPORT IN IAPS SCHOOLS

Code of Practice for coaches, match officials, pupils, parents and spectators

Sport is a very important element of life in our schools. It is participated in and enjoyed by large numbers of pupils and girls of all ages and abilities. This code of conduct aims to ensure that this enjoyment and participation remain at the heart of all we do.

Coaches/Teachers

1.
Schools have a responsibility to ensure that hired professional coaches, gap students and any other adult helpers use appropriate language and behaviour when working with young children and commit fully to the spirit of this code of practice.

2.
Coaches must be reasonable in their demands on children's time, energy and enthusiasm - they need other interests.

3.
Children play for fun and enjoyment and winning is only part of this. Never ridicule or shout at children for making mistakes or losing a competition.

4.
Coaches should make a personal commitment to keep themselves informed on sound coaching principles and the principles of children's growth and development.

5.
Players should be grouped according to age, height, skill and physical maturity where appropriate (for discussion)

6.
Coaches should try to arrange an appropriate balance between practice and fixtures – giving opportunity to all children who wish to participate without over playing the most able.

7.
Those responsible for entering IAPS sponsored tournaments should be aware of the effort that goes into their organisation. The late withdrawal of teams creates major problems and disruptions potentially devaluing the event for those who have made the effort to attend. In future, therefore, late withdrawal will seriously jeopardise a school's chances of participation on future occasions.

8.
Ensure that equipment and facilities meet safety standards and are appropriate to the age and ability of the players.

9.
Teach players that the rules of the game are for their own safety and should be respected at all times.

10.
Ensure that players respect the ability of their opponents and the judgement of match officials.

11.
All coaches/teachers should be fully conversant with school child protection procedures and be CRB checked as required.

Match Officials *All match officials should:*

1. Do their utmost to ensure that the players enjoy the experience of playing for their school.
2. Be a positive role model and lead by example
3. Keep up to date with refereeing/umpiring qualifications and practices in their sport as well as any changes in playing regulations.
4. Recognise that the safety of players is paramount.
5. Explain their decisions clearly and concisely remembering at all times to be fair and unbiased.
6. Refuse to tolerate or condone foul play of any kind.
7. Emphasise the spirit and the ethos of the game.
8. Take time to speak to players and coaches after the game.

Parents *Remember that children develop at different rates and react differently to the same pressures.*

1. Don't force an unwilling child to participate in sport; he or she is not playing to satisfy your ambitions.
2. Children are involved in organised sport for their enjoyment and not yours.
3. Encourage your child to always play by the rules.
4. Teach your child that effort and teamwork are as important as victory so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
5. Turn defeat into victory by helping your child work towards skill improvement and a positive sporting attitude. Never ridicule or shout at your child for making a mistake or losing a competition.
6. Children learn best by example. Applaud good play by members of all teams not just your own.
7. Do not question publicly the officials' judgement and never their honesty.
8. Support all efforts to remove verbal and physical abuse from children's sport.
9. Recognise the value and importance of coaches. Allow them to decide what is best. They give their time,energy and experience to provide guidance for your child.
10. Set an example by being friendly to the opposition parents.
11. Emphasise enjoyment and fun. Praise and reinforce effort and improvement.
12. Be aware of the physical demands that sport places on your child. Participation in both school and club matches may be too much for some individuals. Priority should be given to playing for the school as stated in the terms and conditions of many schools.

Pupils *All pupils should:*

1. Play for the fun and enjoyment of it, not just to please their parents or coach/teacher.
2. Where rules apply, try to learn them and stick to them.
3. Accept decisions; let their captain or coach ask any necessary questions.
4. Control their temper and be a good sport.
5. Remember to respect their opponents and the match officials.
6. Remember that the aim of the game is to have fun, improve skills and feel good. They should not show off nor attempt to score the most points/goals etc.
7. Work equally hard for the team as for themselves. Their team's performance will benefit alongside their own.
8. Treat all players as they themselves would wish to be treated. They should not bully nor take unfair advantage of any player either on their own or on the opposition's side.
9. Cooperate with their coach, team-mates and opponents – without them there would be no game.
10. Appreciate and respect the adults who make these opportunities possible.

Spectators *Spectators should remember the following:*

1. Children play organised sports for their own fun. They are not there solely to entertain

you and they are not miniature adults nor professional sportsmen and women.
2. Do not harass or swear at players, coaches or officials
3. Applaud good play by both sides and show respect for your team's opponents. Without them there would be no game.
4. Never ridicule or scold a child for making a mistake during a competitive match of any kind.
5. Condemn the use of violence in all forms.
6. Respect the decisions made by officials.
7. Encourage players to always play to the rules.
8. Relax and enjoy the game whether your team wins or not.
9. Remember that young people learn by example so make sure that yours is the right One!

Blackhorse Field: Access to Pitches

NB Blackhorse Field is currently not in use by Cothill since the academic year 2024/25. This will be reviewed in due course. This section may be disregarded currently until further update.

Blackhorse Field, on the other side of the Marcham Road, is an important resource, *but the safety of the children in our care is of paramount importance*. It should be noted that the new gates at the crossing point (on this side of Bowlers) are currently outside the 30 mph zone, and, despite the excellent visibility in both directions, extreme care must always be taken when this road is crossed.

The cardinal rule is that no pupil is permitted to cross the road, at any time, without adult supervision.

1.
Staff taking a game on Blackhorse Field will assemble pupils by the road gate before crossing the road at the start of Games. It is anticipated that there will usually be two members of Staff allocated to Games on Blackhorse Field which will help facilitate the safe crossing.

2.
Similarly, after Games, pupils will be gathered on Blackhorse Field before crossing the road on their return.

3.
When crossing the road with pupils, Staff will accompany pupils. Glancing down the road from behind the wall and telling pupils that 'it is safe to cross' is not acceptable. pupils will walk (not run) straight across the road, from gate to gate.
*Note that if a car can be seen at the School end of the road, one should **wait**.*

4.
pupils who are late, must leave for tennis / golf lessons or for any other reason, will be accompanied across the road by an adult.

5.
On match days, visiting Staff will be directed by Cothill Staff and will be responsible for their own pupils. Also on match days, pupils are permitted to cross the road *under the supervision of their parents*.

Following advice from
https://www.gov.uk/rules-pedestrians-1-to-35/crossing-the-road-7-to-17,
crossing the road safely means one must:

Stop just before you get to the kerb, where you can see if anything is coming. Do not get too close to the traffic. If there's no pavement, keep back from the edge of the road but make sure you can still see approaching traffic.

Look all around for traffic and listen. Traffic could come from any direction. Listen as well, because you can sometimes hear traffic before you see it.

If traffic is coming, let it pass. Look all around again and listen. Do not cross until there is a safe gap in the traffic and you are certain that there is plenty of time. Remember, even if traffic is a long way off, it may be approaching very quickly.

When it is safe, go straight across the road – do not run. Keep looking and listening for traffic while you cross, in case there is any traffic you did not see, or in case other traffic appears suddenly. Look out for cyclists and motorcyclists. Do not walk diagonally across the road.

RFG - Sept 2026