



KGS Colours and Cum Laude Honours Policy

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Approved by SLT

Responsible Officer Principal

Review Cycle Annual

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‘At KGS, excellence matters — but excellence is not only academic. We recognise those who achieve, contribute, lead and serve.

KGS Colours and Cum Laude Honours Policy

KGS delivers a holistic education with great emphasis on recognising, valuing and nurturing students' diverse talents. Our KGS Honours System exists to recognise exceptional achievement, sustained commitment, leadership and service across the breadth of school life.

KGS believes that excellence is expressed in many forms. Academic achievement, sport, the arts, leadership, service to others, contribution to House and School life, and representation at national and international level all have a valued place within the life of the School.

The awarding of Colours and Cum Laude is therefore intended not simply to recognise achievement, but to celebrate the qualities of commitment, character, contribution and excellence that KGS seeks to develop in its students.

Colours:

House and School colours, more commonly known simply as "colours," are historically awarded to members of a university, college, or school who have excelled in an activity such as community service, the arts, leadership or sport. The awards system gives rise to phrases like "Oxford Blue," or 'Harrow Grey" referring to someone awarded their School or University Colours. The system is common in historic Universities, Colleges and Schools. It is recognizable by unique blazers, waistcoats, ties, blazer badges and pins that are worn long after graduation.

Cum Laude:

The Latin honours system—consisting of *cum laude* (with praise), *magna cum laude* (with great praise), and *summa cum laude* (with highest praise)—is a traditional academic distinction used to honour outstanding academic performance at Universities, Colleges and Schools.

At KGS, Cum Laude is an honorary academic distinction recognising exceptional academic achievement. It is awarded independently of any external examination body's grading or classification system.

The Honours Committee:

The Honours Committee at KGS, comprises the Principal and 3 Headmistresses. The Principal will convene the Honours Committee at the end of each term to consider nominations. Nominations must be justified by the nominating House/Senior Leader/Prefect/Praeposter or Head Boy/Girl and be supported by the respective Headmistress.

Honours are privileges rather than entitlements and are awarded at the discretion of the Honours Committee. The criteria established in this Policy form the threshold for consideration. The Honours Committee will apply the published criteria consistently across Sections and activities and may seek further evidence or clarification from the nominator where necessary. The Honours Committee retains professional judgement regarding the level, significance and context of an achievement. In case of any uncertainty within the committee, the Principal's decision is final.

Honours may be suspended or withdrawn by the committee, where a student is found to have engaged in serious misconduct, academic dishonesty, serious breaches of School rules or conduct that is fundamentally inconsistent with the values represented by the honour. Any decision to withdraw an honour will be proportionate and made by the Honours Committee following consideration of the relevant circumstances.

There is no appeal against the academic or professional judgement of the Honours Committee. However, a student or parent may request a review where there is evidence that the published procedure was not followed or relevant information was not considered

The formal presentation of Honours will be done by the Principal and take place at the end of each term, with a certificate issued at the end of the year during the Awards Ceremony.

'Junior colours' earned in the Middle Section are relinquished upon entering the College Section in Year 10, where Senior Colours, awarded by the committee, take precedence. Cum Laude awards remain with the student for life and are worn at formal occasions on the student's blazer.

Colours are intentionally selective. Not every student who participates successfully in an activity will receive an honour; Colours are reserved for achievements and contributions that are genuinely significant in their context. Awards recognise the significance, quality and sustained nature of a student's contribution rather than participation alone. Recipients must demonstrate **reliability, commitment, cooperation, loyalty and service**, in addition to meeting the specific activity criteria outlined below.

Meeting the published criteria establishes eligibility for consideration; it does not create an entitlement to an honour.

The Awarding of Colours at Karachi Grammar School

All students should have the standard school badge, on their navy blue blazer, that is to be worn in winter and on all formal occasions. When presented with House (half) or School (full) colours, the standard badge is replaced with the following....

Half Colours (House) Worn on navy blue Blazer*	Full Colours (School) Worn on navy blue blazer*	National Colours Pakistan Green Blazer Worn
High level of performance in local and regional competitions (Artistic, Academic, Sporting) For impactful community service in the local community For contribution/service to their House Dedication and consistent performance for their House Significant contributions in House leadership/peer mentoring High level of performance in school music, drama productions, debate, or public speaking. 	High level of performance in national competitions (Artistic, Academic, Sporting) For community service that impacts nationally For contribution/service to their School Dedication and consistent performance for their School Exceptional contributions in School leadership/peer mentoring High level of performance in regional/national/international music, drama productions, debate, or public speaking. 	National Colours are awarded to students who have been formally selected to represent Pakistan, or who have achieved an equivalent level of nationally recognised distinction, in sport, the arts, academic competition or another recognised field. National Colours are worn for a full year from the date of their presentation (reverting to school colours if National Honours are not renewed)
House Captains, Praeposters, Heads of House, Middle and Senior Leaders May Recommend Students to the Honours Committee.	Middle Leaders, Senior Leaders and Head Boy/Girl (and their Deputies), May Recommend Students to the Honours Committee	You are Selected to Represent Your Country and You apply to the Honours Committee for your Green Jacket Scholarship

* The examples are representative, rather than exhaustive.

The Awarding of Cum Laude at Karachi Grammar School

Pins may be worn only on School Blazers and should be worn with pride at all formal occasions. Upon graduation the pin may be worn on all formal attire.

Cum Laude*	Magna Cum Laude*	Summa Cum Laude*
High Academic Achievement across a range of subjects, and/or outstanding achievement in one subject. Highest annual academic achievement across Years VII/VIII Outstanding Learner Award for best in Region 10 or more O/IGCSE Levels at A*/A grade 4 AS-Levels at A grade 3 A-Levels at A*/A grade 	Outstanding achievement across a range of subjects, and/or Exceptional achievement in one subject. Outstanding Learner Award for best in Country 9 O/IGCSE Levels at A* grade 5 AS-Levels at A grade 3 A-Levels at A* grade or 4 at A*/A grade 	Exceptional achievement across arrange range of subjects Receiver of the Ikramullah Trophy in MS Outstanding Learner Award for best in the World 10 or more O/IGCSE Levels at A* grade 4 A-Levels at A* grade or 5 at A*/A grade 
Praeposters, Head Boy/Girl (and their Deputies), Teachers, Middle Leaders and Senior Leaders May Recommend Students, With the Support of the Headmistress, to the Principal.		

* The examples are representative, rather than exhaustive.

The KGS Honours System may be reviewed and developed over time in response to the evolving nature of student achievement and the life of the School. Any additional honours will be introduced only where there is a clear and enduring need.