



Honours Ties/Honours Certificates – General Information

'Honours Ties' and Honours Certificates' are awarded to students at George Abbot School for outstanding achievement. This may be in any area: sporting, academic, leadership, service etc. **Students must complete the details on the form, and may self-nominate or be nominated by others.** Nominations can be made for students in Year 8 or above.

Honours Ties are awarded to students who bring honour over a period of time (months/years) and participate regularly in their chosen field.

Honours Certificates are awarded to students who bring Honour through a specific competition or event, or one-off activity.

Before awarding the Ties, the Honours Tie Panel must be sure that the following criteria are met:

- The achievement has been accomplished by the individual in his/her own right – not a group or a team.
- That the achievement reflects long term commitment to and success in the activity rather than success in a "one-off" competition.
- That the achievement brings honour to the school.
- The support of the Head of Year is given, demonstrating that the student is abiding by the school rules and behaving in line with expectations.

Categories for the award are:

1. Regular representation at the County level or above in a particular activity, often but not exclusively sporting. In some less popular activities representation at the Regional level or above would be expected. Top national rankings in a particular sport are also accepted.
2. Outstanding service or leadership for the benefit of others and, directly or indirectly, the school.

It should be remembered that Honours Ties/Honours certificates can be awarded for outstanding achievement in an area of school life (academic, leadership, charity work etc), provided this has an impact that can be seen by members of the local or wider community, and thus "bring honour" to the school.

Equally it is important to understand that students with Honours Ties must obey the code of conduct, and may have their Honours Tie temporarily removed if they do not demonstrate acceptable behaviour in school.

Ultimately, the decision whether or not to award an Honours Tie or Certificate is made by the Honours Tie Panel and each application is considered individually. However, in order to ensure that ties are awarded as fairly as possible, the Panel may consult with subject staff, or the Headteacher. Difficulties have frequently arisen over the comparability of achievement in different areas and consequently the guidelines on the next page have been drawn up, following consultation.

Once a year, Honours Tie winners will be asked for an update on their current involvement in their chosen activity. This information may be published on the Honours tie section of the school website.



Examples of when an Honours Tie or Honours Certificate may be awarded

Citizenship

All students at George Abbot are encouraged to participate in volunteering. An Honours Certificate may be awarded, for example, to a student who has applied First Aid to a member of the public and as a consequence prevented further injury or harm.

An Honours Tie may be awarded to a student who has shown **exceptional** commitment to volunteering, with evidence of them using their own initiative and having a positive impact on the lives of others over a long period of time.

Dance/Drama

- There must be **regular** achievement at surrey or professional level and a **significant** individual role undertaken (ie not part of a crowd scene/chorus)
- Involvement must be following an individual audition and not be as part of a dance/theatre group
- There should be supporting evidence of long term commitment to the activity

Success at National levels (eg All England Dance/National Theatre) would also be considered in their own right, as for other sports.

Honour Certificates may be awarded to a group of students who win a major competition.

Music

Following consultation with the music department it has been agreed that representation at the following levels or higher should be considered for Honours Ties:

- Surrey County Youth Jazz Orchestra
- Surrey County Wind/Youth Orchestra
- Surrey County Baroque Ensemble
- National Children's Youth Orchestra
- National Children's Orchestra
- National Youth Music Theatre
- National Youth Wind Orchestra
- National Youth Brass/Jazz Band

All these require an individual audition and are of a very high standard, with large numbers of young people competing for each place.

Sport

The panel will consider the relative difficulty in representing the country at one sport compared to others. In some sports representation at regional or national level would be expected. For example winning the National Sea Cadets' canoeing championship might equate to representing Surrey at canoeing.

Academic

Many students at George Abbot School demonstrate excellence in their GCSE and A Level results. An Honours Certificate may be awarded to a student who is highly successful in a national challenge. An Honours Tie may be awarded to a student who uses his/her academic excellence over a period of time for the benefit of others (helping at a primary school), or representing the school in on-going competitions etc.

Please note these areas are not an exhaustive list but given to give an indication of how Honours Ties and Certificates are awarded.



Honours Tie/Honours Certificate Nomination Form

The details on this form must be completed by the nominee and then signed by the nominee or the nominator, and the Head of Year.

| | |
|-------------------|-------|
| Name of Student : | Form: |
|-------------------|-------|

| | | | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|
| Self-Nomination, or Nominated by: | | Relationship to nominee: self, parent, friend, coach etc) | |
|--------------------------------------|--|--|--|

Nomination for an: (please tick the appropriate box)

*Honours Tie: awarded to students who bring honour over a period of time (months/years) and participate regularly in their chosen field
Honours Certificate: awarded to students who bring honour through a specific competition or event, or one-off activity*

| | | | | |
|--------------|--|----|----------------------|--|
| Honours Tie: | | or | Honours Certificate: | |
|--------------|--|----|----------------------|--|

Nominated for achievement in:

(please tick the appropriate box and write in the area of activity, for example Mathematics, First Aid Ballet, Archery, Flute etc)

| | | | | | |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|--|--|--|--|
| Academic Studies: | | | Citizenship: <i>(service or leadership for the benefit of others):</i> | | |
| Dance: | | | Drama: | | |
| Music: | | | Sport: | | |
| Other: | <i>Please give details below:</i> | | | | |

How long has the nominee participated in this activity?

| | | | |
|-------|--|--------|--|
| Years | | Months | |
|-------|--|--------|--|

(If the nomination is for an honours certificate, this may be a one-off date)

What level does the nominee participate at?

(please tick the appropriate box and write in further details, for example GB Gymnastic Squad, Surrey County Youth Jazz Orchestra, Railway Children Professional Musical, English Youth Ballet etc, First Aid administered during major accident etc)

| | | | | | |
|--------------|--|--|----------|--|--|
| Professional | | | National | | |
| Regional | | | County | | |
| Other | | | | | |



**Honours Tie/Honours Certificate
Nomination Form**

Please use this page to provide further details regarding this nomination and how the nominee meets the criteria for the award:

Signature and Printed Name of Nominator

Date:

Signature of Nominee

Signature/Approval of Head of Year:

Date:



Honours Tie Update

Each year we would like to update our information on our Honours Tie Winners and their current activities; this information is then shared within the school. Please be aware that we may also publish some of the information you share on the George Abbot School website, so it is important that you tell us if you do not wish this to happen.

| | |
|-----------|--|
| Name: | |
| Form: | |
| Activity: | |

Please give details below of your current involvement in the activity you were awarded an Honours Tie for, recent successes and hopes/plans for the next academic year or two. Please attach any photos you would like us to share on the Honours Tie board display, or send an electronic version to:

ecave@georgeabbot.surrey.sch.uk

If you are no longer taking part in your chosen activity, please return this form to us indicating this.

There is no problem, but it saves us chasing you for further information.

Please return this form to Mrs E Caves via Raynham Office

I am willing for this information to be published within George Abbot School and on the George Abbot School website.

Name: (Signature) Date: