Liz Milne (ESAA XC Cup Final Co-ordinator)
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07979885479

ESAA Schools Cross Country Cup Final: Saturday 5th December 2026

Dear Colleague,
Congratulations on qualifying for the final of the 2026 ESAA Cross Country Schools' Cup which is being hosted by Ratcliffe College, Fosse Way, Ratcliffe on the Wreake, Leicester LE7 4SG

Please read this letter very carefully in conjunction with the attachments listed below:

Team declaration forms must be completed and sent by **Saturday 14th November**

Attached Documents

1. Declaration form
2. Directions to the venue and site map, with parking information
3. School minibus/Coach parking permits (please print off IN COLOUR and display prominently on your minibus windscreen)
4. Photographic permission form to be completed: https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/GUxLt6pBj8

Race day

Parking

Team Minibuses and coaches (drop off) only allowed on site for parking. No cars onsite except officials and blue badge holders.
All spectator parking is at the park and ride facility at Dunelm Mill .Vehicles can park for £6 and coaches will provide the 10 minute transfer to and from the college. Please remind parents: parking fees and programme costs go to support the cost of staging the final, our work in developing athletics across the country, and ensuring our events are accessible to as many young people as possible.

Programmes

Programmes are available at the venue for £3. However, if you wish to purchase programmes for your athletes, these can be ordered in advance. They will be £10 for 6, payable in cash on the day at the declaration desk. Please use this link to pre-order your programmes:
https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/MJKCT1X4Qn

Registration

From 10am team managers should report to the registration area in the Sportshall to collect their school's welcome pack. Final Team declarations, with substitutions if needed, MUST be made between 10:30am and 11.45am and handed back in at the declaration desk

Numbers

Numbers must be issued to athletes as per programme. Please remember 4 safety pins per athlete to secure the bib on each corner – this year we are again using bib chips so it is vital that they are secured correctly to vests.

Site

Ratcliffe College politely request that no dogs are brought on to the school site.

Presentations – Although many of you will have long journeys home, all are asked, as a matter of courtesy, to attend the presentation ceremony at 3pm in the Main Sports Hall.

Cup Final Timetable:

10am Team Declarations (Close at 12noon)
10:30am Course open for inspection (closes at 11.45am)

12:15pm	**Race 1: Junior Girls**	**2.5km**
12:35pm	**Race 2: Junior Boys**	**2.5km**
12:55pm	**Race 3: Inter Girls**	**2.9km**
1:20pm	**Race 4: Inter Boys**	**4.4km**
1:45pm	**Race 5: Senior Girls**	**3.1km**
2:10pm	**Race 6: Senior Boys**	**4.9km**
3pm	**Presentation in the Sportshall**	

COURSE FOOTWEAR

This is an undulating course that is a mix of underfoot conditions including playing fields and woodland paths. Recommended footwear is max. 12mm spikes or fell shoes.
All athletes should walk the course prior to racing.
Please contact me if you require further advice

It is essential that you meet the tight deadlines if we are to get your athletes' names in the programme. I look forward to meeting you and your team and wish you a safe journey and enjoyable racing in the ESAA Cross Country Cup Final.

Yours in sport,

Liz Milne
Debbie Brennan **(Joint ESAA Cross Country Cup Final Co-ordinators)**

On the day of the final, for emergencies only, please ring:

Liz	07979 885479
Debbie	07796 907674