Sports at Gateway School are intended to be a positive experience for the students. Our coaches use practices to teach skills and to emphasize to our players the importance of teamwork and effort. We teach that winners are people who give the maximum effort, continue to learn and improve, and refuse to let mistakes stop them. We also strive to teach our players to honor the game and to respect the rules, our opponents, our teammates, the officials and ourselves. We require all of the above of our parents as well.

The structure of the sports teams will depend upon the number of students interested in participating. In some cases, we might have 5th/6th grade teams and 7th/8th grade teams, and in others we may be able to field teams for each grade. Practices will be grouped to maximize the learning environment and will be based on the players’ skill level. In many cases, different grades will practice together. We will post our practice and game schedules on the Gateway online calendar for all teams. On occasion, we may be forced to change a practice or game time and we will notify you of any changes as soon as we can.

Every practice is important for learning and working as a team. We require that players make a commitment to their team by attending each practice and game. Out of respect and fairness to the team, if a player is unable to attend a practice or game, coaches may adjust playing time accordingly. Coaches should be informed in advance when a player has to miss a practice or game.

As stated in the Parent-Student Handbook, faculty members may not transport children to or from practices or games. If a child needs a ride and his/her parents have not pre-arranged to have another parent drive him or her, the student should come to the Main Office to contact his or her parents to make arrangements. As is also stated in the Parent/Student Handbook, students who do not attend school on a given day may not play in that day’s game or practice (however, exceptions can be made for medical or academic appointments). In accordance with the Middle School Handbook, all 6th - 8th grade student athletes must maintain a 75% grade in all classes in order to participate on sports teams (grades check on the 1st of each month and at the beginning of each season). Student athletes in 5th grade must be in good standing by meeting the academic expectations of their classroom teachers and specialist teachers. Failure to maintain these academic standards will result in a one-week removal from the team to allow for minimum grade requirements to be met. Removal from the team will continue until the student athlete has achieved this requirement. In addition, any student receiving an after--school detention or negative behavior from his or her instructors while participating on a sports team must miss his/her next game or practice, whichever comes first. A suspension from the school will result in a two--week suspension from the team.
Please remember there is a $120 fee for each player per sport to help defray the costs of equipment, referees, staff, gym rental and uniforms. This fee will be added to your student’s Smart billing account. If you have any billing questions please contact Julie Wilson, Gateway School’s Business Manager, at (831) 423-- 0341 x 349 or by email at julie.wilson@gatewaysc.org.

Thank you,
Zachary Raney
Athletic Director
zachary.raney@gatewaysc.org

To indicate that you understand and agree with this policy, please complete all of the fields below and then sign and return this Agreement to your coach.

Student Name: ________________________________________________  Student Grade: __________

Season (check one):  __Fall  __Winter  __Spring

Team or Sport: ______________________________________________________

Student Signature: ______________________________________________________

Parent Email: __________________________________________________________

Would you be interested in carpooling with other parents to practices/games?  __Yes  __No

Parent Signature: _____________________________________________  Date: ______________