



present the



2026

**British Schools' Score Orienteering
Championships**

Saturday 10th October 2026

Shipley Country Park, Heanor, DE75 7GX

What is a 'Score' competition?

This is a competition where participants score points by visiting as many controls as possible in any order within a pre-specified time limit. Points are deducted if the time limit is exceeded. For this event there will be approximately 30 controls in the area, with around 8 to 10 controls in a loop equivalent to a White course on the British Orienteering colour-coded grading scheme. The remaining controls will be at a mixture of Yellow, Orange, Light Green and Green standard sites.

Time limit

The time limit will be **45 minutes for all pupils**. Competitors do not have to stay out for the whole of this time.

Scoring System

Pupils score 10 points for each control correctly punched; 5 points will be deducted for every minute or part of a minute late. In the event of a tie on points, the shortest time will decide the result.

Who can take part?

The event is for pupils in years 5 to 13 inclusive. Pupils below year 5 may only run if they are experienced (having gained White colour-coded standard). This is a school's competition and ideally all entries should be made through your school. Please note that schools do not have to be members of the British Schools Orienteering Association (BSOA) to enter. It is not necessary for a member of the school staff to accompany the team, but the team must be accompanied by a responsible adult.

Pairs

Pupils in years 5 to 8 may compete in pairs.

- If a pair contains two different age categories, they should compete in the older age category
- If a pair contains a boy and a girl, they should compete in the Boys category in the age class of the oldest of the pair

Photographs

BSOA-appointed photographer Ray Barnes will be in attendance and his photos will be on the BSOA website after the event. These photos will be taken in compliance with British Orienteering O safe guidelines. Submission of the entry form implies permission for these official photographs.

ENTRY

Entry Forms must be emailed by Monday 21st September 2026 to: bsoasecretary@gmail.com

Cost and Entry Details

£8.00 per individual: £16.00 per pair.

All entries **must** be on the downloaded spreadsheet which should be saved such that the name of your school appears in the title. This should then be emailed to bsoasecretary@gmail.com no later than **Monday 21st September 2026**. Then ensure payment is made preferably by BACS.

British Schools Orienteering Association

Sort Code 30 95 41

Account No. 01301825 (Please ensure your school name is on the transfer).

Alternatively post a cheque payable to 'British Schools Orienteering Association' postmarked no later than Monday 21st September 2026 with the school name written on the back to

BSSC entries, 5 Rounds Hill, Kenilworth, Warwickshire CV8 1DW.

There is no late entry or entry on the day.

Entry Enquiries to: Mel Elkington bsoasecretary@gmail.com

Your entry form will not be processed unless payment has been received.

Final details and an Excel spreadsheet with start times will be emailed to the adult in charge of each team and the names of all competitors must be returned via the emailed spreadsheet by Tuesday 29th September 2026. N.B. email communication is preferred for speed and economy. There is no entry on the day.

EVENT DETAILS

Final details will be posted online on both the BSOA website www.bsoa.org and the DVO website www.derwentvalleyorienteers.org.uk

Getting there

Shipley Country Park, Slack Lane, Heanor DE75 7GX

Parking, Start and Finish

Parking for cars, minibuses and coaches in Shipley Park's Coppiceside Pay & Display Car Park. Parking charges apply all day and tickets must be purchased at a ticket machine and displayed inside the windscreen of all vehicles.

Coach parking in an area of Coppiceside Car Park reserved for coaches and horse boxes, provided there is capacity; if this reserved area is full, overflow parking for coaches will be along a tarmac avenue in the nearby industrial estate.

Please let us know your means of transport on the entry form, especially if you are travelling by coach or minibus.

Cars and minibuses: 3 hours £3.50; all day £7.00; pay and display.

Coaches (dedicated parking area): 4 hours £10.00; all day £15; pay and display.

Parking charges must be paid on all vehicles; pay at the ticket machine (all vehicles) and display ticket inside windscreen.

The Start will be clearly signposted and less than 10 minutes' walk from the Coppiceside Car Park.

The Finish will be close to the Coppiceside Car Park.

Toilets

Portable toilets in the event field close to the Coppiceside Car Park - signed from the car park.

Map and Control Descriptions.

The map scale is 1:10,000, updated in June 2019. Maps will be on waterproof paper and overprinted with the controls. Control descriptions will be on the map.

Equipment Required

Orienteering kit, or a T-shirt or long-sleeved shirt, tracksuit bottoms and trainers (or shoes with a good grip). **NO SHORTS**. A watch will be essential so pupils know how long they have been out for, and whistles will be compulsory – **NO WHISTLE, NO GO**. A compass is recommended.

Given the time of year, it may be necessary to stipulate that competitors wear rainproof jackets with hoods or cagoules. Please come prepared.

Punching

SI electronic punching will be used and an SI card will be handed to each competitor / pair in the pre-start area to those that do not have their own. Demonstration controls and cards will be at the Enquiry point.

Start Times

Start times will be from 11.00am. to 1.00pm. Starts will be at one-minute intervals but pupils from the same school will normally start at least four minutes apart.

Course Closing Time

2.30pm.

Individual Medals

Medals will be given to the first three pupils (or pairs) in each age class. Years 5 to 9 will compete in separate year classes. Years 10 & 11 will be combined into one age class as will Years 12 & 13. Competitors in Years 5 to 8 may run in pairs.

Participation certificates will be awarded to all competitors.

Team Awards

BSSC is primarily aimed at school team competition. Medals and certificates will be awarded to the top three teams in each category.

Primary Boys (Years 5 & 6) Best 4 scores to count

Primary Girls (Years 5 & 6) Best 4 scores to count

Middle / Prep Boys (Years 5–8) Best 4 scores to count from at least 2 years

Middle / Prep Girls (Years 5– 8) Best 4 scores to count from at least 2 years

Lower Secondary Boys (Y7–9) Best 6 scores to count from at least 2 years

Lower Secondary Girls (Y7–9) Best 6 scores to count from at least 2 years

Upper Secondary Boys (Y10–13) Best 6 scores to count

Upper Secondary Girls (Y10–13) Best 6 scores to count

In the event of a tie on points, the shortest total time of the scorers will count.

Medals for non-scorers in a winning team will be available at a cost of £1.50 each at the end of prize giving from BSOA.

British Schools Orienteering Association

The BSOA exists to provide a link between schools and mainstream Orienteering. It is affiliated to British Orienteering and has approximately 300 schools as members. At present membership of BSOA is free. BSOA have funded all the medals & certificate frames for the British Schools Score Championships. Further details of the BSOA can be obtained from www.bsoa.org