

## Sutton Valence Junior Diploma

The Junior Diploma recognises achievement and participation in our Junior Curriculum. Importantly, it is not a pass or fail system; it provides opportunities for pupils of all abilities to achieve the highest level. Whilst their preparatory school contemporaries are working towards 13+ Common Entrance, it provides focus and purpose, giving pupils a taste of working towards a major goal ahead of their GCSE years.

The Diploma is the culmination of the first two years at the Senior School, where all pupils work towards achieving one of three different levels, with entry to the Third Form being gained at pass, merit or distinction level.

	<b>Second Form end of year exam result average</b>	<b>Average effort First – Second Form</b>	<b>Blue Points by end of Second Form</b>	<b>Junior Leadership Course</b>	<b>Junior portfolio</b>
<b>Pass</b>	Up to 59%	Up to 3.4	Up to 30	Level 1	Complete
<b>Merit</b>	60 -74%	3.5-3.9	31-60	Level 2	Complete with Merit
<b>Distinction</b>	Over 75%	4.0+	61+	Level 3	Complete with Distinction

Pupils must achieve the required criteria in at least four categories to be awarded the final level of Junior Diploma.

Blue points are awarded for contribution in the four areas of School life: Academic, Co-curricular, Community and Leadership and Service. Points are accumulated in the Juniors, leading to a Blue badge and contributing to their Diploma. In the middle years of the School and again in Sixth Form, points are gained leading to a Blue badge and then, on the acquisition of two badges, a Blue gown; the ultimate accolade, which is worn at official School functions.

The Junior Leadership course strives to produce confident, capable individuals, who are able to use their initiative to solve problems and make decisions, which are at times out of their comfort zone and beyond their realms of their experience.

The Junior Portfolio is a personal document completed throughout the Junior years, where pupils track their monitoring grades, agree targets and review them, provide examples of outstanding work and evidence of co-curricular achievements. The aim is to develop ownership of their learning journey, self-esteem and to create a document which acts as a point of discussion for Junior tutors and Third Form tutors at the point of progression.

