

## Oxfordshire Schools Cross Country – March 2025

On Saturday 1st March 2025, three pupils from Aston Rowant proudly represented the school at the Oxfordshire Primary Schools Cross Country Championships, competing against runners from schools across the county. This was a landmark moment for our school, as it was the first time Aston Rowant pupils had taken part in this event - and on a Saturday morning too!

The competition is a well-established county championship, bringing together primary-aged runners from many Oxfordshire schools to compete in age-group races on a formal cross-country course. The event provides pupils with the opportunity to challenge themselves at county level and experience competitive sport in a supportive but aspirational setting.

### Fantastic Results

All three of our runners performed exceptionally well in their respective races:

- Max S finished 3rd in their year-group race
- Alexander finished 3rd in their year-group race
- Flo P finished 5th in their year-group race

These results are a remarkable achievement, especially given the scale and competitiveness of the event. Each pupil showed determination, stamina and focus from start to finish.

### Personal Development and Pride

What made this event particularly special was not just the results, but the experience itself. The pupils embraced the early start and new challenge with enthusiasm and thoroughly loved taking part. They conducted themselves with maturity and confidence, representing Aston Rowant School with pride among many other Oxfordshire schools.

They were a real credit to the school, as were their supporters, demonstrating outstanding sportsmanship, resilience and encouragement throughout the morning.

### Impact

Taking part in the Oxfordshire Schools Cross Country Championships supported pupils' personal development by:

- Building confidence through county-level competition
- Developing resilience and perseverance in a physically demanding event
- Encouraging independence and commitment
- Fostering pride in representing their school

This experience laid strong foundations for wider participation in competitive sport and helped establish cross-country as an area of growing strength within the school.

We are incredibly proud of all three pupils for stepping forward, embracing the challenge and setting such a positive example for others to follow. A fantastic first entry into a prestigious event - and hopefully the start of many more to come.

