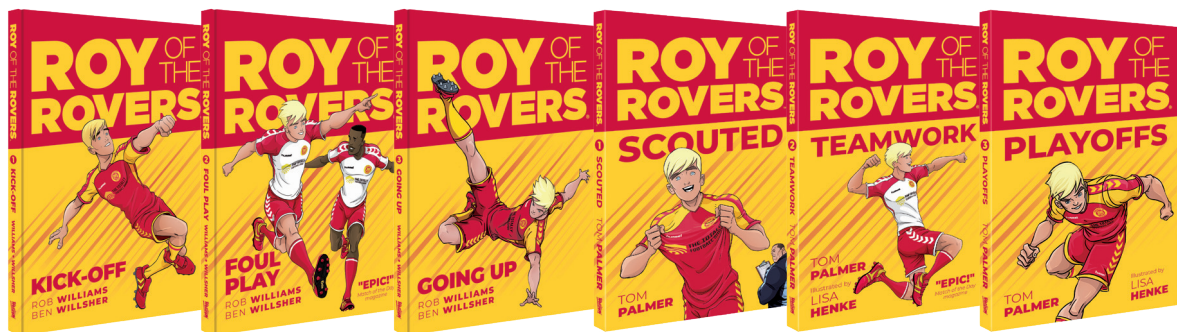


Create a club motto for legendary football club Melchester Rovers!



Can you come up with a brilliant club motto for Roy Race's football team, Melchester Rovers? We are inviting pupils aged between 8-12 to get creative and write a motto that will encapsulate Roy's passion for football, celebrate the team spirit of Melchester Rovers and inspire fans!



Roy Race is a totally normal 16-year-old who has always dreamed of becoming a professional footballer and playing for Melchester Rovers, the team he's supported his entire life. When he's given the opportunity of a lifetime to show he is Melchester's best striker, Roy must be fitter, stronger and more determined than ever – especially if he's going to help Melchester Rovers on the road to victory. The Melchester Club Motto must reflect this passion, determination, desire for success and above all great sportsmanship!

To find out more about *Roy of the Rovers* and the brilliant new comics, graphic novels and books now available visit the official website:

royoftheroversofficial.com

We've put together these simple activities to help your pupils create a great motto. Activities could take place across one or two lessons and you could even use them to come up with a new class motto for the Spring term!

Warm-up

Get your pupils thinking about what a motto is and why it can be inspirational.

A motto is a short sentence or phrase that shares a particular idea, feeling or intention relating to a product, group, club, activity, brand, political belief or religion.

Does your school have a motto? If so, share it and explain what it means.

Here are some examples of mottos that your pupils might recognise (You might like to gather some supporting images such as logos to help pupils recognise what a motto represents):

Nike: *'Just do it'*

McDonald's: *'I'm loving it'*

Sainsbury's: *'Live well for less'*

Scouts: *'Be prepared'*

Royal Air Force: *'Through adversity to the stars'* (*'Per ardua ad astra'* in Latin)

Mottos often summarise motivation and intention. Quotes from books or famous people often become mottos:

"Those who don't believe in magic will never find it." – Roald Dahl

"It does not do to dwell on dreams and forget to live." – Albus Dumbledore, Harry Potter and the Philosopher's Stone

Football clubs often have mottos to inspire their players, encourage support from their fans and share their club ethos. Famous football mottos include:

You'll never walk alone – Liverpool

Victory Grows Through Harmony – Arsenal

Can your pupils think of any others? Do they have any family mottos? Write their ideas on the board as they share them.

Let's kick off!

Pupils will need to be creative and thoughtful with their words, so this football/sport-themed word association game will help them come up with a word bank to refer to when writing their motto.

You will need a space big enough for your class to stand in a circle, a football, and you will need to make a note of the words your pupils think of.

Start with one child holding the ball they then say a word related to football such as 'sport'; then they throw the ball to another child who says another word associated such as 'team'; they then pass the ball to another child and so it goes on, with each child calling out a new associated word.

As the game progresses, you can add words to encourage them to think of ideas relating to sportsmanship such as 'focused', 'determined', 'respect' and so on. Eventually the pupils will have created a wonderful word bank to help them write their motto.

Top Tips from Tom Palmer

- Listen to a radio or TV commentary of a football match. On small pieces of paper, write down the best words and phrases the commentator uses. Now put the pieces of paper next to each other in different combinations. You might get an idea for a motto that nobody has ever had before. This is how I sometimes choose my book titles!
- Ask five people you know which football team they support and what they think their club is about. Write it all down. Has one of them come up

with something you can use as your motto? It's fine to use other people's ideas, but make sure you say thanks.

- Try to use just three words for your club motto. Three is good. Three punchy words. Each one different. That usually works.

Find out more about Tom Palmer and his brilliant books [here](#).

Guidance:

- Entries are welcome from pupils aged 8-12 years.
- Mottos should be no more than five words long.
- Rhyme or alliteration can be used.
- They should celebrate the determination showed by Roy Race and his fellow team players.
- They should promote the Melchester team spirit.
- They should encourage fans to support and believe in Melchester Rovers.