

# HOXTON PARK PRIMARY SCHOOL

## SPORT POLICY

### Philosophy

Sport as an aspect of the school curriculum is an integral part of an individual's development, requiring physical involvement in organised games or activities within an accepted set of rules.

This sport policy is premised on the belief that sport, when presented and organised effectively, will be an important educational and developmental area which will offer benefits to both the individual and to society as a whole.

As an individual the benefits for students will be:

- \* improved physical fitness, health and self confidence;
- \* experiencing enjoyment, achievement and personal challenges;
- \* opportunities to develop friendships;
- \* development of a variety of sporting skills;
- \* opportunities to develop social, organisational and leadership skills; and
- \* improved academic and other skilled activity performance.

As a society the benefits will be:

- \* a healthier population with an active lifestyle;
- \* promotion of group and community identity;
- \* social skills gained through interaction and cooperation; and
- \* understanding of the need to adhere to codes of behaviour.

### Aims of Sport

We aim to:

- \* encourage and provide opportunities for all students to participate in a wide variety of sport at a level commensurate with their physical, mental, social, emotional and skill development;
- \* develop fitness and sport specific skills so that participation is enjoyable and successful;
- \* develop an awareness and understanding of the elements of team play and good sportsmanship;
- \* encourage cooperative social relationships in small and large group activities;
- \* develop students' knowledge of rules and strategies appropriate for a variety of games; and
- \* develop the capacity of students to make reasoned decisions about ethical issues in sports that will lead to good behaviour both as players and spectators.

## **Principles underlying Sport**

We believe:

- \* a variety of sports should be conducted throughout the year's program dependent upon facilities, equipment and personnel available with the school and community;
- \* enjoyment, participation and skill development by students are essential features of a successful sports program;
- \* the organisation of sport should ensure equal opportunities for participation are available to all students regardless of ability, gender, ethnicity, age or level of maturity;
- \* where appropriate, desirable and safe sporting activities will be encouraged on a coeducational basis;
- \* sporting activities must be carefully planned, implemented and evaluated;
- \* students must be assessed and their achievements recorded;
- \* where necessary the rules, equipment and participation in particular sports should be modified to meet the growth and stages of development of the students taking part;
- \* active teaching and supervision by teachers is essential for the realisation of the aims of sport; and
- \* school sport must make adequate provision for more competitive students while ensuring a satisfying and successful experience for less competitive students.

## **The Sport Program at Hoxton Park Primary School**

### **K - 6 Fitness**

Students will be involved in a minimum of sixty minutes of fitness activities during the week. Fitness sessions will be conducted on a class or grade basis. Gymnastics and dance are to be included appropriately as a part of fitness programs. Classroom teachers will be responsible for the planning, implementation and evaluation of fitness sessions. They will also be responsible for assessing students.

Practical sessions will involve students participating in a wide range of skill based physical activities. Fitness sessions will also consist of warm up and warm down activities.

### **K - 2 Sport**

All K-2 students will combine on a grade basis for participation in sporting activities. A session will be held each week with emphasis on the development of fundamental movement skills.

Students will participate in creative play and games and adapt new skills to integrate into their free play. They will perform movement patterns individually and in groups. Students will perform movement sequence by following and repeating simple movements, rhythms and patterns. Modified sports will also be a feature of the K-2 sport program.

Cooperative planning by teachers on each grade will ensure a sequential, balanced

program that relates to the needs of the particular group of students. In addition to the weekly sports session, K-2 students will participate in class fitness lessons, including gymnastics (two terms), the K-2 athletics carnival and the special swimming scheme (Year 2 only).

### **3 - 6 Sport**

All 3-6 students will participate in sport each Friday, either in the home sport program or in the PSSA competition.

A planned program will involve students participating in a number of different sports throughout the year. The emphasis will be on the development of skills and enjoyment. Sports will reflect skills being practised during grade fitness sessions.

In addition to the Friday sport program, 3-6 students will be involved in school carnivals in swimming, cross country and athletics each year. Students will also participate in class fitness lessons, including gymnastics (two terms) and will be given the opportunity to attend district trials for a variety of sports. Students will be provided with the opportunity to participate in the special swimming scheme.

### **PSSA**

The school is affiliated with the Green Valley Primary School Sports Association.

PSSA at this school will involve students:

- \* participating in Friday afternoon team competitions involving schools within the district; and
- \* participating in district representative trials and carnivals according to qualification guidelines.

### **House Sport**

The house sport program will provide a framework for healthy competition within the school. Upon enrolment, students will be placed into one of the following sport houses:

- \* Kendall red
- \* Lawson yellow
- \* Mackellar green
- \* Paterson blue

Students will represent their houses at various school sporting carnivals, which are held annually.

### **Awards for Sport**

Students who display skill, improvement and/or sportsmanship during weekly sport activities will be rewarded through the presentation of sport awards during school assemblies.

In addition, students who are placed in events at the swimming, cross country and athletics carnivals will receive sport ribbons. Awards for sporting achievement for K-2 students, 3-6 students and PSSA sport will be presented at the end of year school presentation assemblies. Teachers of 3-6 students will select one outstanding student to receive the sportsperson of the year award based on that student's attitude to sport and successful sporting achievement.

## Responsibilities

### Teachers will:

- \* encourage enjoyment in sport and promote the importance of an active lifestyle;
- \* cater for varying levels of ability when planning sport programs;
- \* provide equal encouragement for both boys and girls to participate, acquire skills and develop confidence;
- \* create opportunities to teach appropriate sporting behaviour;
- \* be fair in their dealings with students;
- \* ensure that safety conditions, as applicable, are strictly observed, especially those concerning the need for safety equipment to be worn;
- \* assess students' achievement within their class group based on outcomes in the PDHPE syllabus;
- \* select deserving students to receive weekly sport awards;
- \* evaluate the success of the school sport program and recommend possible changes or improvements; and
- \* recommend equipment purchases to the PDHPE team.

### PSSA Coaches will:

- \* select team members to take part in PSSA competitions;
- \* conduct coaching sessions related to the particular sport;
- \* organise permission notes and transport to and from venues;
- \* collect money from students where necessary; and
- \* attend PSSA meetings where possible particularly when items concerning their sport are set down for discussion.

### Students will:

- \* actively participate to the best of their ability;
- \* play fairly and safely;
- \* play to gain enjoyment;
- \* play by the rules;
- \* cooperate with teachers, team mates and opponents;
- \* abide by decisions with argument;
- \* honour PSSA commitments, including attendance at all training sessions where possible; and
- \* learn to value honest effort, skilled performance and improvement.

### Parents will:

- \* encourage their child to actively participate in the school sport program;
- \* encourage their child to always play by the rules;
- \* ensure their child wears the appropriate school sport uniform;
- \* be courteous in their communication with staff members, sport coaches, officials and players;
- \* focus on effort and performance rather than the outcome of games; and
- \* provide an acceptable reason as to why their child should be exempted from any school sport or fitness session.