



St Munchin's College School Sports Policy

Introduction:

Sports has a major role to play in school and in society. St. Munchin's College encourages all students to engage in a sporting activity as part of their overall development in particular their physical, social and emotional development. It is hoped that all students will grow and develop into mature responsible adults to reflect the (overall) philosophy of our school, as stated in our mission statement. St. Munchin's College is a caring community, sharing the Christian ideal, endeavoring to create and sustain an environment through which each of our students can **grow in all ways** aesthetically, emotionally, intellectually, morally, physically, socially and spiritually.

Aim of the Policy:

- To create opportunities for all students to participate in and enjoy a wide variety of sports (competitive and non-competitive).
- To ensure the safety of all sporting participants in school and when playing sport away from school.

The underlying principles (of the policy) provide for:

Inclusiveness: The exposure of students to a wide variety of sports (competitive & non-competitive) to meet the needs and interests of all students. All students encouraged to participate in some sport.

School retention: Through being involved in a sporting activity students will develop a more positive attitude to school and enjoy being in school.

Improved achievement: Through sporting events students will develop "a healthy body" which will in turn develop "a healthy mind". This will be reflected in greater academic success for these students.

Enjoyment: Everyone involved in any sporting event will enjoy the experience. A harmonious interaction will develop between teachers, coaches and students, between fellow students and between opposition teams.

Personal Growth: Participants in sport will learn new skills and their self-confidence will improve.

Lifelong Learning: Being involved in sport at a young age will benefit students in adult life by continuing to participate in sport as player, coach or spectator.

Sportsmanship: Participants in sport will develop a “team spirit” attitude which will benefit them in other areas of their life. A balanced attitude towards competition will be learnt where winning and losing will be handled in a spirit of true sportsmanship.

Wellbeing: Participating in sport will improve the overall wellbeing of the students.

General Guidelines for extra-curricular activities:

- Consent forms to be signed by Parents/Guardians of team players (to take part in a sporting activity/to leave the school premises).
- Notice of matches/events will be given to the Deputy Principal in a timely fashion and entered into the activities book in the Deputy Principal’s
- Teachers and instructors (including external providers) who coach teams should possess the relevant competencies to safely and effectively manage the proposed activity.
- Prior to engaging the services of a non-staff member, the Principal/ Games Master must:
 - ✓ ascertain their level of expertise or experience, qualifications and training
 - ✓ ensure all child protection requirements are met, including completing a Vetting Check.
 - ✓ Where an adult other than a teacher accompanies the group to provide instruction or assist with supervision, a teacher must still take overall responsibility for the supervision of their students.
- A list of students participating in matches should be e mailed to staff in advance and such students should be marked as SA (School Activity) on VS Ware.
- Adequate supervision will be in place when a team leaves the school.
- For away games, all players must use transport organised by the school.
- All sporting accidents/incidents must be reported to the Principal and recorded in Accident Report book.
- All discipline problems on the sports field (or among supporters) will be dealt with by the teachers/coaches. Serious incidents must be reported to the school Deputy Principal/Principal.
- The school code of discipline applies to all students at all times.
- Child protection guidelines will be adhered to at all times.
- Staff safety must be considered at all times.

Supervision

- The Board of Management is responsible for the development and implementation of a student supervision plan for all school sport and other physical activity programs.
- Principal and Games Masters should assess a number of factors in determining the level and type of supervision which needs to be provided during a particular activity, including:
 - ✓ nature and location of the activity (prior inspection of the location may be required to identify potential dangers),
 - ✓ number of students involved,
 - ✓ age and maturity of students,
 - ✓ qualifications and experience of the adult supervisors, including ability to provide first aid, and travel to and from the venue.

Medical Care

- A number of blood-borne infectious diseases can be transmitted during body contact. A player who is bleeding must leave the playing area until the bleeding has stopped and the wound is cleaned and securely covered with a waterproof dressing. All contaminated clothing and equipment must be replaced prior to the player resuming play.
- Teachers and officials treating bleeding players or participants should wear disposable latex gloves. The gloves must be changed and discarded if they are torn or punctured, or after contact with a player or participant.
- Officials must report all significant cuts and abrasions to medical staff or the supervising teacher at the first available opportunity.
- All clothing, equipment and surfaces contaminated by blood must be viewed as potentially infectious. Students must not share personal items including towels, and drink containers.

Code of Behaviour for players and spectators:

- Players play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official. If you disagree with an official's decision, have your captain, coach or manager discuss the matter with the official during a break or after the competition.
- Work for yourself and for your team. You will both benefit.
- Be a good sport applauding all good plays made by a team member or by a member of the opposition.
- Do not bully or take unfair advantage of another competitor.
- Co-operate with your coach, team mates and opponents. Without them there would be no competition.
- Respect the rights, dignity, and worth of all participants regardless of their ability, cultural background or religion.
- Wear the correct attire.
- Chewing gum is prohibited when participating in any physical activity.
- It is forbidden to wear any jewellery when participating in any physical activity.
- Smoking is not allowed.
- Players are required to behave in a responsible manner at all times, on the way to and from the game (by bus or on foot) on the playing field and in the changing rooms.

Students must remember that they are representing St. Munchin's College at all times

Signed:

Chairperson of Board of Management

Mr. Philip McAuliffe

Principal

Mr. David Quilter

Reviewed On: 28th May 2019

Next Review: May 2021