



1. PURPOSE

Linden Park Primary School encourages students to take part in regular physical activities to support their health and wellbeing. The school promotes age-appropriate sports competitions to help students develop skills, teamwork and leadership.

Being part of a school sports team helps students to:

- stay physically active and develop healthy habits
- improve their sporting skills
- learn commitment to their team, training and coach, and to play fairly
- understand the value of practice and teamwork

School sport is competitive but should also be enjoyable for every child. Both boys and girls have equal opportunities to participate.

The Out of School Hours Sports Program depends on parent volunteers for coaching, training, managing teams, and officiating. A parent coach must be nominated before a team can be registered.

2. CODES OF CONDUCT

Players' Code

- Play by the rules.
- Never argue with an official.
- Control your temper. Verbal abuse of officials and other players is not permitted.
- Be a good sport. Appreciate good behaviours and skilful plays by all participants.
- Players are responsible for wearing the required protective gear and sunscreen.

Consequences for Players not observing the Code

- *No uniform / protective gear – no play.*
- *Coaches will remove players for unacceptable behaviour and report non-attendance at training.*
- *Major behaviour issues will be reported back to the school Principal*

Parents' / Spectators' Code

- Parents must drop off and collect children on time. Being more than 10 minutes late may affect a child's place in the team or require LPPS OSHC registration.
- Parents are encouraged to help with the program where possible.
- Please respect and thank volunteer coaches, officials and organisers.
- Sport is for children's enjoyment. Encourage participation, not pressure.
- Focus on effort and fair play, not winning.
- Do not yell at or embarrass any child. Be a positive role model.
- No verbal or physical abuse. Respect officials' decisions.
- Treat everyone with respect, regardless of background or ability.
- Do not approach the coach while they are coaching.

In instances of repeated unacceptable behaviour, sanctions may include a written warning or suspension from attending games.

Coaches' Code

- All coaches must have a Working with Children Check and RRHAN-EC training.
- Make sport positive and fair for all players. Give equal attention and share game time.
- Remember that sport is for enjoyment, not just winning.
- Do not yell at or embarrass players for mistakes.
- Be fair and reasonable with players' time and effort.

- Follow the rules of the sport and teach players to do the same.
- Make sure equipment and facilities are safe and suitable. Report safety concerns.
- Show respect and professionalism to everyone involved and encourage players to do the same.
- Take care of sick or injured players and follow medical advice before return to play.
- Use only appropriate and necessary physical contact.
- Treat all players with respect, regardless of background or ability.
- Encourage sunsmart behaviours.

Coaches' Duty of Care

The school values the time and effort coaches give and asks parents and players to show respect and support. Coaches have a duty of care to students. This means they must:

- *take reasonable care to keep children safe during training and games*
- *stay with children after training or games until they are collected by a parent, carer or approved adult*

If parents or carers have concerns, they should first contact the Sports Coordinator. Serious concerns should be put in writing to the Principal for review and possible action.

3. LATE PICK-UP FROM TRAINING / GAMES

Parents/caregivers must collect their child on time after training and games.

Children cannot leave the venue alone unless the coach has written permission. Coaches will take reasonable care to keep children safe. Parents are expected to attend matches.

Parents are responsible for knowing training and game finish times. If a child is not collected on time, the coach will call the parent or emergency contacts and finally the Sports Coordinator/Principal will be contacted. Serious late pick-up cases may lead to loss of the child's team spot and fees will not be refunded.

4. TEAM SELECTION

Out of Hours School Sport is for students in Years 2–6 who are at least 7 years old. Teams follow the rules of the relevant sporting association, which may use age or year level to group players. Playing in a different age/year group is only allowed in exceptional cases, with parent and Sports Coordinator approval, and must not take a spot from other players or prevent a team from being entered.

Teams are chosen fairly, balancing skills and experience. Friendship groups are considered when possible, but teams will not be “stacked” with all strong players. This helps newer or less skilled players learn and enjoy the game. In rare cases, the Sports Coordinator may adjust teams during the season. Late registrations are only accepted if there is space in a team.

5. MATCHES AND TRAINING

The Sports Coordinator will give out fixtures when they are received from the sporting association. The coach will set training times and venues and inform parents/caregivers. Parents must tell the coach in advance if their child cannot attend a training or match and make sure the coach has up-to-date contact details.

Parents may be asked to help with team duties at training or matches, such as scoring, timekeeping, or officiating. If a parent cannot do their duty, they must arrange a swap with another parent.

6. SAFETY, FIRST AID AND INJURY PROCEDURE

All parents, caregivers, and volunteers involved in sport have a Duty of Care to keep children safe. This includes:

- Children must not be left alone after training or matches. They can only leave with a parent/caregiver or if written permission has been given to the coach.
- The Sports Coordinator provides first aid kits. Coaches keep kits during training and games and report if supplies are low.

- Coaches and supervisors are encouraged to hold a current first aid certificate.
- Children with open wounds must stop playing until the wound is cleaned, covered, and safe. Gloves should be used. Minor injuries can be treated on-site. For serious injuries, call an ambulance and contact parents. The Sports Coordinator / Principal must be notified of any serious accidents.
- Coaches follow the School's Weather Cancellation Policy and may cancel training or matches if conditions are unsafe, after informing parents.
- Coaches must be informed of any child's medical conditions (e.g., asthma)
- Coaches encourage sun-safe behaviour.
- Coaches must ensure all equipment is safe and children wear appropriate protective gear, following the sport's rules.

7. RESPONSIBILITY FOR CHILD SAFETY AND INSURANCE

Parents/caregivers are responsible for their child's safety during training and matches. Parents are encouraged to have insurance for sports injuries and ambulance costs.

A digital consent form must be completed for each child before they start any school sport. The form provides health details, contact information, and permission for the coach to act if the parent is absent. Coaches take care of children but are not legally responsible for their safety. If a child is injured when a parent is not present, the coach may call an ambulance and will try to contact the parent. The parent is responsible for ambulance costs.

8. COMPLAINT MANAGEMENT AND RESOLUTION POLICY

If there is a problem or complaint, it should first be raised with the Sports Coordinator. If it is not resolved, it can be sent in writing to the Principal for review.

9. WEATHER CANCELLATION POLICY

- Outdoor training is cancelled if the forecast is 36°C or higher.
- Before-school training may continue if temperatures are cooler.
- Weekend morning sports are cancelled if the forecast for 12pm the day before is 36°C or higher.
- Indoor and weekday outdoor matches follow the relevant association's hot weather rules (except cricket, which follows the school's policy).
- Coaches may cancel training if conditions are very wet and will inform parents. Parents should also check with the coach.

If training or games are stopped mid-way, coaches will stay with children until they are picked up.

10. UNIFORM CODES AND EQUIPMENT

Sport	Provided by the School	Provided by the Player
Football	LPPS Guernsey	Maroon socks, black shorts, boots, mouthguard
Soccer	LPPS Shirt	Maroon socks, black shorts, boots, shin guards
Netball	Dresses & Bibs	Sneakers and white socks, sports dress, black under briefs
Cricket	Helmets, pads, gloves, bats	Caps/hats, sneakers and socks and • for Kanga: school uniform; • for Years 4-6: cricket whites including LPPS white polo shirt. Students will need a 'box' protector.
Basketball	LPPS Singlets	Black shorts, sneakers and socks

- Players must wear the correct uniform. The coach or umpire may prevent a player from playing if the uniform is incorrect.
- School-provided uniforms must be returned in good condition at the end of the season. Replacement costs may apply for lost or damaged items.
- Team equipment is the coach's responsibility.

- Coaches should collect uniforms and equipment at season's end and report any damage or missing items to the Sports Coordinator. The Coordinator will follow up with students/parents if items are not returned.
- Coaches should check all equipment and provide an inventory to the Sports Coordinator at the end of the season.

11. FEES

The Out of Hours Sports Program is user-pays, meaning costs are covered by participation fees. The Sports Committee reviews fees each year to keep the program running.

Fees cover:

- Uniform and equipment costs for replacements
- Participation certificates at the end of the season
- Other necessary costs, such as association fees and first aid supplies
- Each sport's fees and accounts are kept separate.