

INTERSCHOOL SPORT POLICY



Help for non-English speakers - If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact the office on (03) 9439 9374 or email eltham.ps@education.vic.gov.au.

PURPOSE

Eltham Primary School aims to provide all students with the opportunity to develop and enrich their lives through sport. We acknowledge the important role that interschool sport can play in a child's social, emotional and physical development.

SCOPE

This policy is to ensure that Eltham Primary School provides an interschool sport program for grade 5/6 students to assist in:

- The development of skills
- The understanding of game strategies
- Understanding the role of health-related fitness and the significance of physical activity participation to health and wellbeing
- Developing appropriate attitudes for playing team sport
- Fostering team spirit
- Developing sportsmanship
- Demonstrating honesty and fairness towards all participants
- Support of own team members

POLICY

Our objective is to develop sport skills, game strategies and good sportsmanship. Winning is a by-product of interschool sport not the sole focus.

The selection of sports for each of the seasons (summer and winter) will be decided upon by the district.

The school's *Sun Smart* policy is to apply for all interschool sporting activities.

Interschool sport may not be played due to adverse weather conditions.

At the commencement of each season the fixture details will be communicated.

Interschool sport is a privilege and is subject to behaviour aligning with our school values. Students need to remember that they are representing the school at all times during interschool sports.

Prior to each season students in 5/6 will be able to select their first and second preferences for a sport. Where possible, students will be given their first or second preference for at least one of the seasons.

Students will be expected to learn the rules for their sport so that they are able to play safely.

If a team progresses into further levels (Division/Region/State), and there are more students than squad numbers, names will be drawn out of a hat.

Players are not allowed to switch teams during the season.

Students who are substitutes should be rotated on a regular basis, both in games and week to week, to ensure all squad members play on a fair and equitable basis.

Students and parents must adhere to the EPS Interschool Code of Conduct – Appendix A

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

POLICY LAST REVIEWED	APPROVED BY	NEXT SCHEDULED REVIEW DATE
March 2024	Principal	March 2026

APPENDIX A

2024 Interschool Sport Code of Conduct - Students/Parents/Spectators

Interschool Sports is an awesome opportunity for Eltham Primary School, grade 5 and 6 students, to play competitive sport against other schools in our schools network. Participating in Interschool Sport is a **privilege**.

It is expected that students demonstrate a high standard of:

- **sportsmanship** and **support for others** (We are Connected),
- **gameplay** and **use of game strategy** (We are Learners)
- **behaviour** and **accepting the decisions of the umpire/referee** (We are Resilient).

This will be shown by EPS students:

- Whilst waiting for the other school for home games (for example: being patient, following staff, or student leader, instructions, doing an appropriate warm up, welcoming the other school when they arrive).
- When traveling on the bus (for example: sitting in your seat with seat belt on, keeping noise to appropriate levels, using appropriate language and conversation, leaving the bus clean at the end of the trip, being polite to the driver).
- When walking through a host school to reach the playing area (for example: being respectful of learning that is occurring in classrooms, speaking politely to staff and other students).
- When waiting for a turn to play the game i.e. as a substitute (for example: sitting and supporting from the sideline - not throwing or kicking balls on the sideline).
- By understanding that sometimes the weather influences whether certain sports can be played, or not (for example: some days rain may stop some sports but other sports may still be played).
- By helping to carry equipment or set up the game.
- By encouraging the people in your team and saying supportive phrases to ANY teammate who either does something good OR makes an error.
- By saying positive phrases to students from the opposition team.
- By shaking hands with the opposition and the officials at the end of the game regardless of the result - **we win, and lose, with dignity**.
- By treating sporting equipment with respect; using the equipment appropriately in the way it is intended (for example: not bouncing netballs as if they were a basketball).

Eltham PS staff have high expectations of students. But these expectations are actually what we expect any school day within all lessons.

It is important that students understand that inability to demonstrate these expectations at Interschool Sport may result in a consequence - (for example: missing an Interschool Sport game, not playing a large portion of an Interschool Sport game, or writing an apology letter).

And, to also understand that negative behaviour choices at school, throughout the week, may also negatively impact their opportunity to participate in Interschool Sport games.

Parents and Spectators shall:

- Support and encourage all players equally.
- Not force an unwilling child to participate in sports.
- Remember that children are involved in organised sports for their enjoyment, not yours.
- Encourage your child to always play by the rules.

- Teach your child that honest effort is as important as victory, so that the result of each game is accepted without undue disappointment.
- Turn defeat to victory, by helping your child work towards skill improvement and good sportsmanship.
- Remember that children learn best by example. Applaud good plays by your team and members of the opposing team.
- Not question the officials' judgment and never their honesty.
- Support all efforts to remove all verbal and physical abuse from children's sporting activities.
- Let the teachers coach the team and will not cause confusion by giving conflicting instructions during the game.
- Not take photos or videos of children except their own unless they have permission.

Please cut off this section, retain the Code of Conduct and return this slip to school.

CODE OF CONDUCT CONFIRMATION

Full name of student:.....

I have read and understood the **Interschool Sport Code of Conduct**

PLAYER(student signature)

PARENT(parent signature)