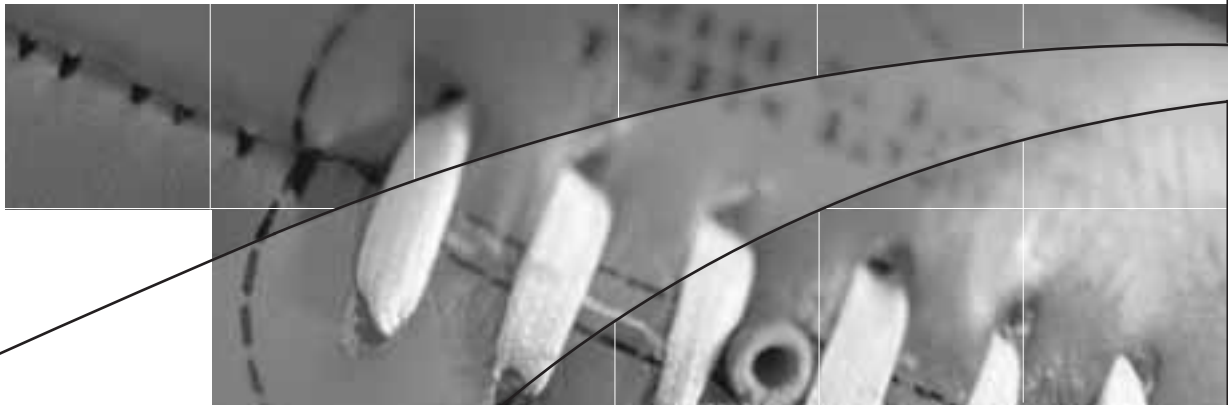




# What is AFL Sport Education?



## Section

# 1

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# What is AFL Sport Education?

AFL Sport Education is an innovative curriculum model\* exhibiting parallels with community sport that can be used in middle primary to early secondary school (Years 4 to 10) with great success. Not only do students learn the skills and fitness components of Australian Football, but also develop a better understanding and appreciation of other roles that are performed in community football environments.

Through a 'season of sport', students can develop into better players and also learn other roles such as umpiring, team management, coaching, leading a team as captain, sports journalists or publicity officers, or serving on the football committee.

The AFL Sport Education model will assist the teacher, students and school in developing stronger links with local community sports providers and state sporting organisations.

Through AFL Sport Education, teachers can meet the assessment requirements outlined in the Health and Physical Education components of the State and Territory Curriculum Frameworks. This model covers all health and physical education strands together with other cross-curricular skills and can be implemented from Years 4 to 10.

The AFL Sport Education model provides for the development of good sporting behaviour within students and attempts to reflect the positive features of community sport as follows:

- A season of sport (rather than units).
- Affiliation with a team (as players and in other roles).
- Student responsibility and ownership.
- Formal competition with evenly matched, mixed ability for single sex or mixed gender teams
- Culminates with a festive event.
- Traditions and rituals of the sport are celebrated.
- Records maintained and publicity of results.

\* Source: Sport Education in Physical Education Program, Alexander, Taggart (1995).



# Role of the teacher

The role of the teacher is to provide a learning environment in which students develop a wide range of outcomes with their peers. The teacher needs to be:

- A good planner.
- A class manager.
- Able to define roles, teach them, and design good practices with feedback so students can learn their role.
- Able to help students acquire game-related skills.
- Able to explain, model and provide purposeful practice for good sporting behaviour (ie. values and fair play).

The AFL Sport Education model is a process whereby students can be educated as participants who are active players, umpires, media representatives and administrators of the game they play.

# How does AFL Sport Education fit into the school curriculum?

AFL Sport Education is a curriculum model that is flexible and responds to the challenge of preparing students for the transition to productive adult life through a learner-centred approach.

The concept of using a season of AFL as the vehicle to facilitate skill development and social responsibility through activity students would experience in a season of community sport can be adapted to a range of school settings:

- Physical education classes.
- Time tabled sport.
- Intra school sport.
- Elective and social sport programs.

The table below demonstrates the traditional features of the AFL game and their parallels with the AFL Sport Education model.

Feature	AFL	Characteristics of AFL Sport Education
<b>Seasons</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-season competition.</li> <li>• Full round of matches.</li> <li>• Finals series.</li> <li>• Grand Final.</li> </ul>	Extended units – 14-20 sessions over 5-10 weeks.
<b>Affiliation</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Team names.</li> <li>• Club membership.</li> <li>• Jumpers/colours.</li> <li>• Logos.</li> <li>• Recognition awards.</li> <li>• Cheer squad.</li> </ul>	Students stay in one team for a season.
<b>Formal Competition</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-season competition.</li> <li>• Round of matches.</li> <li>• Finals series.</li> <li>• Grand Final.</li> <li>• Club presentation night.</li> <li>• Competition presentation night.</li> </ul>	Regular and frequent modified games.
<b>Keeping Records</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Statistics – individual.</li> <li>• Statistics – team.</li> <li>• Goalkickers.</li> <li>• League ladder.</li> <li>• Brownlow votes.</li> <li>• Media awards.</li> <li>• Coaches award.</li> <li>• Team player award.</li> <li>• Fair play award.</li> </ul>	Students maintain a range of records.
<b>Festival and Traditions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Pre-season competition.</li> <li>• Grand Final day.</li> <li>• Best and fairest medal.</li> <li>• Rising Star.</li> <li>• AFL Draft Camp.</li> <li>• AFL Draft.</li> <li>• Club presentation night.</li> <li>• Coin toss by captains.</li> <li>• Oranges at three-quarter time.</li> <li>• Shaking hands with opponents.</li> <li>• Running out behind the captain.</li> <li>• Milestone players.</li> <li>• Banners and floggers.</li> <li>• Sing team song after game.</li> </ul>	A celebration or end-of-season event is planned by students.



# Notes