

# SPORTING Schools



## EVALUATION OF THE SPORTING SCHOOLS PROGRAM

The Australian Sports Commission (ASC) engaged ORIMA Research to undertake an independent national evaluation of the Sporting Schools program during 2016.

The evaluation was informed through:

- national surveys
- interviews
- ASC data including AusPlay
- other national data sources
- 8 case study schools (one in each state and territory across Australia)

Surveys were conducted with:

> **2,073** principals > **2,658** Sporting Schools coordinators > **373** coaching providers > **2,005** teachers > **1,271** external coaches

### What's working well?



#### Benefits to children

- > The chance to try different sports at no cost to families or schools
- > Increases physical activity and fun
- > Positive impact on health and wellbeing.



#### Benefits to schools

- > Access to skilled and knowledgeable coaches
- > Injects needed funds into schools.



#### Benefits to teachers

- > Professional development opportunities for skills transfers from coaches.



#### Benefits to sports

- > New marketing channels to promote their sport and products to engage children in their sport.



#### Benefits to coaches

- > Professional development opportunities by working in schools with large, mixed-ability groups of students.

For more information visit [sportingschools.gov.au](http://sportingschools.gov.au)

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*"The value of the program is way beyond sport. The sport engages the children, and an engaged child is so much easier to teach."*

Principal

The Sporting Schools evaluation highlights that:

- ✓ Local communities place high value on sport in schools
- ✓ Schools value external coaches
- ✓ Key success factors regarding products and delivery need to be present
- ✓ The program is helping to strengthen understanding about the broad value of sport, and its contribution to key child development outcomes.

89% or more of people using Sporting Schools strongly endorse the program and want to stay involved



PARENTS

COACHES



PRIMARY  
SCHOOL  
STAFF



CHILDREN



32 PARTNER  
SPORTS

## Key success factors

Sporting Schools is most successful when products and delivery in schools include:

- > An engaged sports coordinator
- > Co-delivery by teachers and external coaches
- > An inclusive program that accommodates a diverse range of abilities
- > Good equipment/facilities
- > Junior products designed for delivery in schools
- > Experienced coaches
- > Appropriate child-to-coach ratios
- > Pathways to community sport

**Schools value the flexibility to choose the type of sport package, when it's delivered and program length.**

## We listened, and are taking action...

### → Administrative processes

The ASC established an online booking system in Term 4, 2016, and is continuing to update the system and other program infrastructure to meet the needs of people who use it.

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