



Statement on Safe Physical Activity

Implemented: March 2013

Review: March 2015



As part of our mission to provide students with an education that prepares them to meet the challenges of a changing society, we:

- Value the worth of each member of our school community by ensuring that all members of the school community are accepted, respected and valued
- Take pride in our school by providing a safe environment

When students engage in physical activity, teachers have a duty of care to ensure the safety of those they teach. Physical activity can bring with it a degree of risk, and teachers have a responsibility to minimise the risk of injury to students through thorough lesson preparation and the teaching of appropriate movement skills.

When teachers program and conduct lessons in Physical Education, and plan for other physical activity opportunities, they should always follow the principles and directions provided in NSW Department of Education and Communities Guidelines (see Associated Documents below).

Staff also have a responsibility to advise the Principal when they believe that students cannot engage safely in physical activity due to the nature of the learning environment (eg playground conditions), or the quantity and condition of sport equipment. An annual budget is provided for the purchase of equipment. The supply and condition of equipment is regularly monitored.

The ability to swim and play safely in water is crucially important in Australian society, particularly in metropolitan areas such as Sydney. For this reason, all students engage in a swimming programme during their time at St. Anthony's. The teaching of gymnastics skills is a necessary element of the PDHPE syllabus. The teaching of swimming and gymnastics skills at St. Anthony's is conducted by specialist teachers appointed by the school. Specialist teachers must possess relevant qualifications and skills to teach gymnastics, and are subject to Child Protection screening. In this way, we can ensure that skills are taught to the children to minimise the risk of injury.

ASSOCIATED DOCUMENTS

School Documentation

- [Mission and Vision Statement](#)
- [Learner Profile](#)
- [Wellbeing Policy](#)
- First Aid Policy
- [Personal Development, Health and Physical Education Policy](#)

System Documentation

- [Child Protection Policy](#)
- Safety Policy

Government Documentation

- [Sport and Physical Activity in Schools Safe Conduct Guidelines](#) (NSW Department of Education and Communities)