NSW Department of Education

School sport permission 2025

Drop-in sessions 3 and 4

Weekly school sport

School Sport Unit - Procedures team

- Lucette King – Policy Advisor
- Michael Kirwan – Sport and Physical Activity Advisor
- SportandPhysicalActivity@det.nsw.edu.au

NSW Department of Education

School sport permission 2025

Overview

Communication timeline

- **Week 2 Term 4** – Sport permission support for schools published on SSU website; Familiarisation guides released
- **Week 4 Term 4** – Drop-in sessions 1 & 2; **Mandatory inclusions**
- **Week 5 Term 4** – Drop-in sessions 3 & 4; **Weekly school sport**
- **Week 6 Term 4** – Drop-in sessions 5 & 6; **Carnivals, gala days, knockouts and external providers**
- **Week 7 Term 4** – Drop in sessions 7 & 8; **Representative School Sport Pathway events**

The School Sport Unit has developed the 'School sport permission 2025' resource to save time in schools and to streamline permission processes in the provision of school sport. The resource will be released in Week 2 of Term 4, 2024 for implementation in Term 1, 2025.

The main components of this resource include:

- Mandatory permission inclusion statements that must be included in all notes for 2025 concerning:
  - Accident insurance
  - Concussion management
- A library of templates that schools can choose to use when seeking permission for a range of sporting activities across:
  - Weekly school sport
  - Carnivals, gala days, knockouts and external providers
  - Representative School Sport Pathway events

Following the release of the resource, the School Sport Unit team will conduct a series of online drop-in sessions, offer presentations, if required, and will be available to provide any additional support by contacting sportandphysicalactivity@det.nsw.edu.au

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Acknowledgement of Country

We recognise the Ongoing Custodians of the lands and waterways where we work and live. We pay respect to Elders past and present as ongoing teachers of knowledge, songlines and stories.

We strive to ensure every Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander learner in NSW achieves their potential through education.

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Presentation overview



- https://app.education.nsw.gov.au/sport/permission
- Weekly school sport
- 4 permission levels
- Notification or permission
- Questions, comments and suggestions

Digital platform service providers

The School Sport Unit is working with the department's Administrative Market Place Panel for Schools (AMPS) (nsw.gov.au) suppliers to deliver these resources and will keep schools updated on the progress.

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What's new

These new steps are not mandatory but may save some time.



Sport and physical activity forms part of the day-to-day programs offered to students which makes it a Business-as-Usual (BAU) component of a student's schooling.

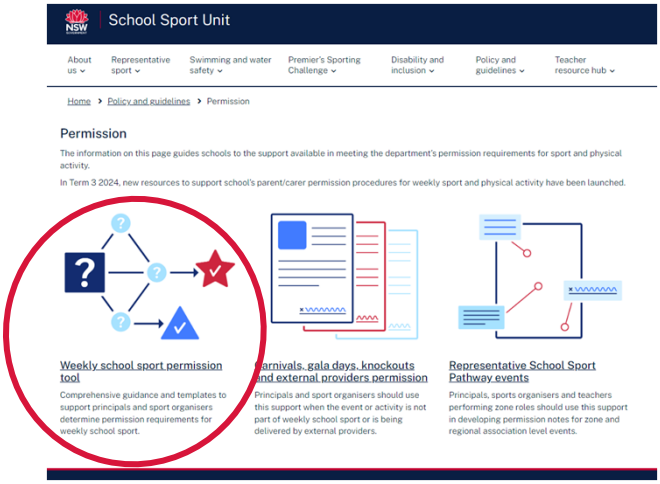
Notification serves as implied permission. This new concept helps to 'close the gap' for student participation in sport.

Collective permission introduced for weekly school sport.

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Weekly school sport and physical activity permission tool



- Promotes student participation in weekly school sports by clarifying permission requirements.
- No signed parental permission needed for low-risk sports on or near school grounds.
- Schools can notify parents via regular channels, simplifying the process.
- Introduces collective permissions for multiple sports on one note, streamlining administration.

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Permission levels

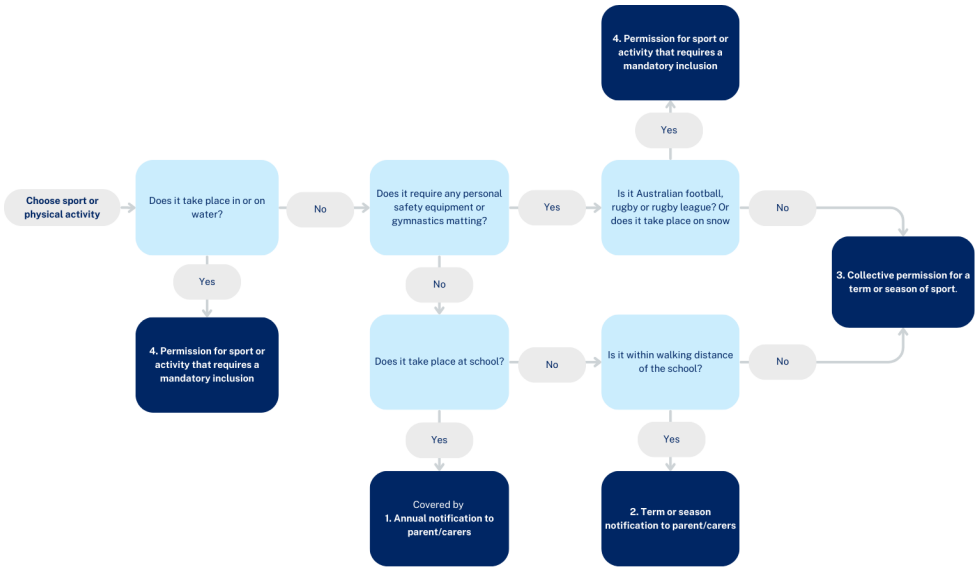
1. Annual notification to parents.
2. Term or season notification to parents.
3. Collective permission for a term or season.
4. Permission for sport/s that require/s a mandatory inclusion.



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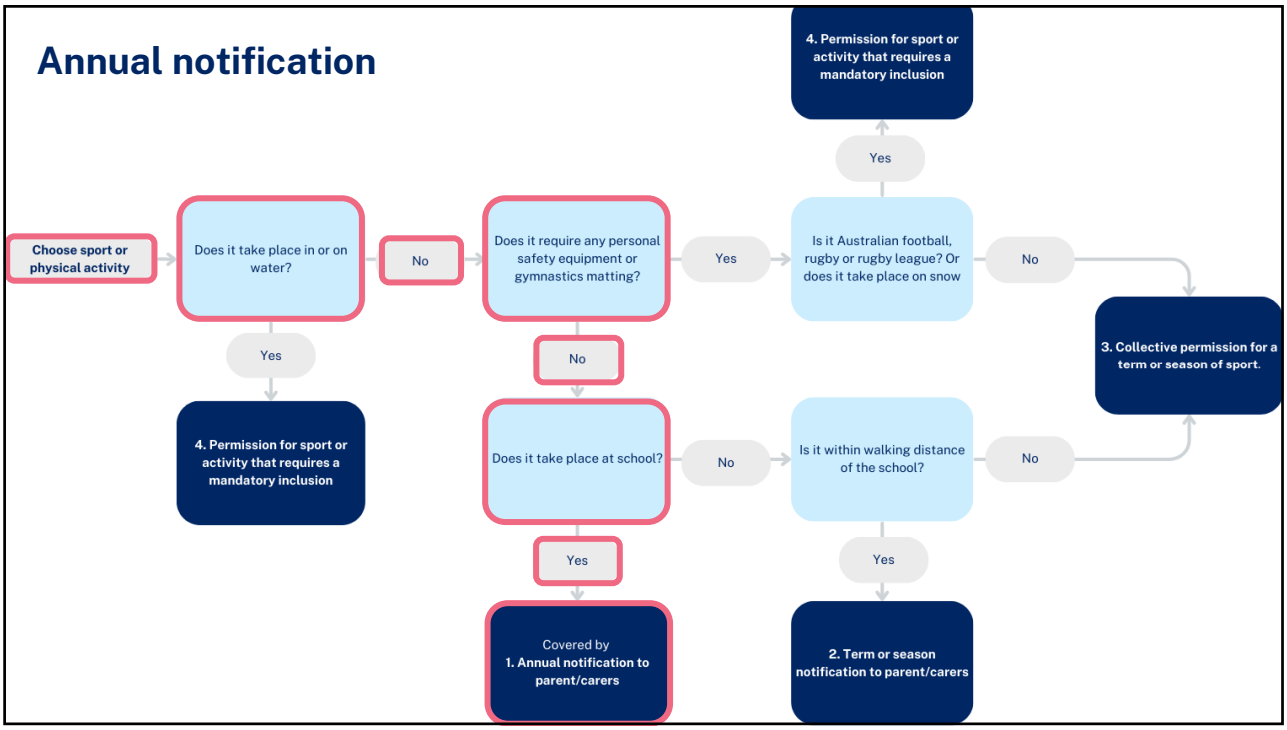
Weekly school sport permission tool



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Annual notification



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1. Annual notification

Annual notification to parents is suitable when the sport:

- involves no personal safety equipment
- occurs on school grounds
- does not take place in or on water
- has been modified to eliminate the need for personal safety equipment
- may require field-of-play safety equipment (for example, netball post padding).



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Level 1
Annual notification

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Permission must haves

Accident insurance information

In the event of injury, no accident or medical insurance cover is provided by the NSW Government Treasury Managed Fund for students participating in school sporting activities, physical education lessons or any other school endorsed activity, unless there is a breach of duty of care by department or school staff. The NSW Department of Education is insured to meet the financial impact of any legal liabilities arising from its activities. It does not provide, nor has it ever provided, accident or medical insurance for students enrolled in government schools.

Concussion management

When a student enrolled in a government school is diagnosed with concussion, the principal must be advised in writing as soon as the diagnosis is confirmed. Students may only return to sport and physical activity once a medical clearance has been provided to the school and, if at a school sport event, to the supervising teacher.

Any student that experiences a suspected concussion during a school-endorsed activity, will be removed from the activity and parents/carers will be advised that a medical follow-up is required.

If medical clearance is not provided, the student cannot participate in vigorous or competitive school sport or physical activities for 21 days from the concussion date.

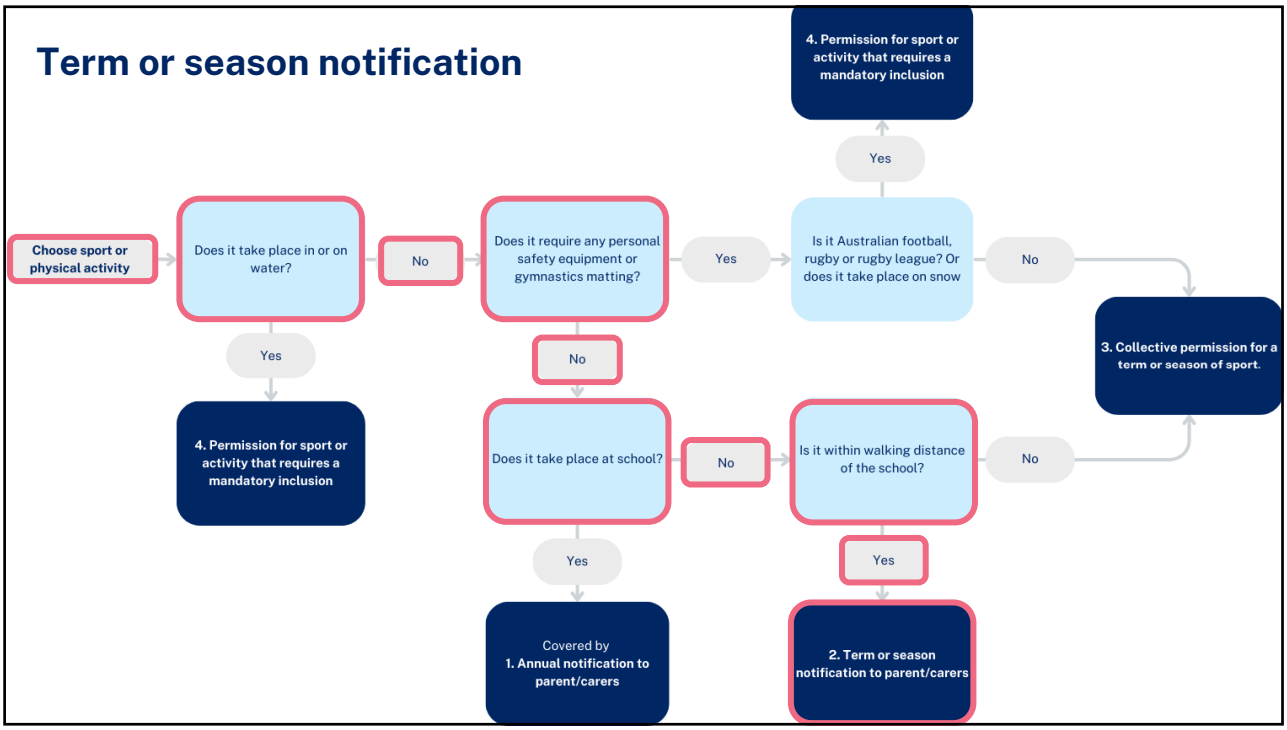
Schools writing their own annual notification must include:

- Our school values sport and physical activity and the essential role it plays in contributing to overall wellbeing for all students.
- School sport is co-curricular and is a mandatory part of the school week for all students.

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Term or season notification



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2. Term or season notification

Term or season notification to parents is suitable when the sport:

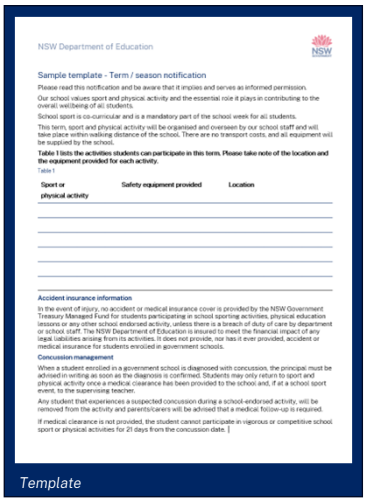
- involves no personal safety equipment or the sport has been modified to eliminate the need for personal safety equipment (for example, wearing no football boots eliminates the need for shin guards)
- occurs within walking distance
- does not take place in or on water or on snow
- may require field-of-play safety equipment (for example, netball post padding).



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Level 2 - Term or season notification template and example


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Sample template - Term / season notification

Please read this notification and be aware that it implies and serves as informed permission.

Our school values sport and physical activity and the essential role it plays in contributing to the overall wellbeing of all students.

School sport is co-curricular and is a mandatory part of the school week for all students.

This term, sport and physical activity will be organised and overseen by our school staff and will take place within walking distance of the school. There are no transport costs, and all equipment will be supplied by the school.

Table 1 lists the activities students can participate in this term. Please take note of the location and the equipment provided for each activity.

Table 1

Sport or physical activity	Safety equipment provided	Location

Accident insurance information

In the event of injury, no accident or medical insurance cover is provided by the NSW Government Treasury Managed Fund for students participating in school sporting activities, physical education lessons or any other school endorsed activity, unless there is a breach of duty of care by department or school staff. The NSW Department of Education is insured to meet the financial impact of any legal liabilities arising from its activities. It does not provide, nor has it ever provided, accident or medical insurance for students enrolled in government schools.

Concussion management

When a student enrolled in a government school is diagnosed with concussion, the principal must be advised in writing as soon as the diagnosis is confirmed. Students may only return to sport and physical activity once a medical clearance has been provided to the school and, if at a school sport event, to the supervising teacher.

Any student that experiences a suspected concussion during a school-endorsed activity, will be removed from the activity and parents/carers will be advised that a medical follow-up is required.

If medical clearance is not provided, the student cannot participate in vigorous or competitive school sport or physical activities for 21 days from the concussion date.

Template


NSW Department of Education

Parent / carer notification for sport and physical activity

Please read this notification and be aware that it implies and serves as informed permission.

Our school values sport and physical activity and the essential role it plays in contributing to the overall wellbeing of all students.

School sport is co-curricular and is a mandatory part of the school week for all students.

This term, sport and physical activity will be organised and overseen by our school staff and will take place within walking distance of the school. There are no transport costs, and all equipment will be supplied by the school.

Table 1 lists the activities students can participate in this term. Please take note of the location and the equipment provided for each activity.

Table 1

Sport or physical activity	Safety equipment provided	Location
Badminton	N/A	Local basketball stadium, walking distance
Basketball	Post pads	Local basketball stadium, walking distance
European handball	Knee pads	Community hall, walking distance
Lawn bowls	N/A	Village bowling club walking distance
League tag	N/A	Village Oval, walking distance
Soccer (no soccer boots or shin pads)	Post pads	Flanders Field
Ultimate frisbee	N/A	Village Oval, walking distance
Walking	N/A	Local community surrounds

Accident insurance information

In the event of injury, no accident or medical insurance cover is provided by the NSW Government Treasury Managed Fund for students participating in school sporting activities, physical education lessons or any other school endorsed activity, unless there is a breach of duty of care by department or school staff. The NSW Department of Education is insured to meet the financial impact of any legal liabilities arising from its activities. It does not provide, nor has it ever provided, accident or medical insurance for students enrolled in government schools.

Concussion management

When a student enrolled in a government school is diagnosed with concussion, the principal must be advised in writing as soon as the diagnosis is confirmed. Students may only return to sport and physical activity once a medical clearance has been provided to the school and, if at a school sport event, to the supervising teacher.

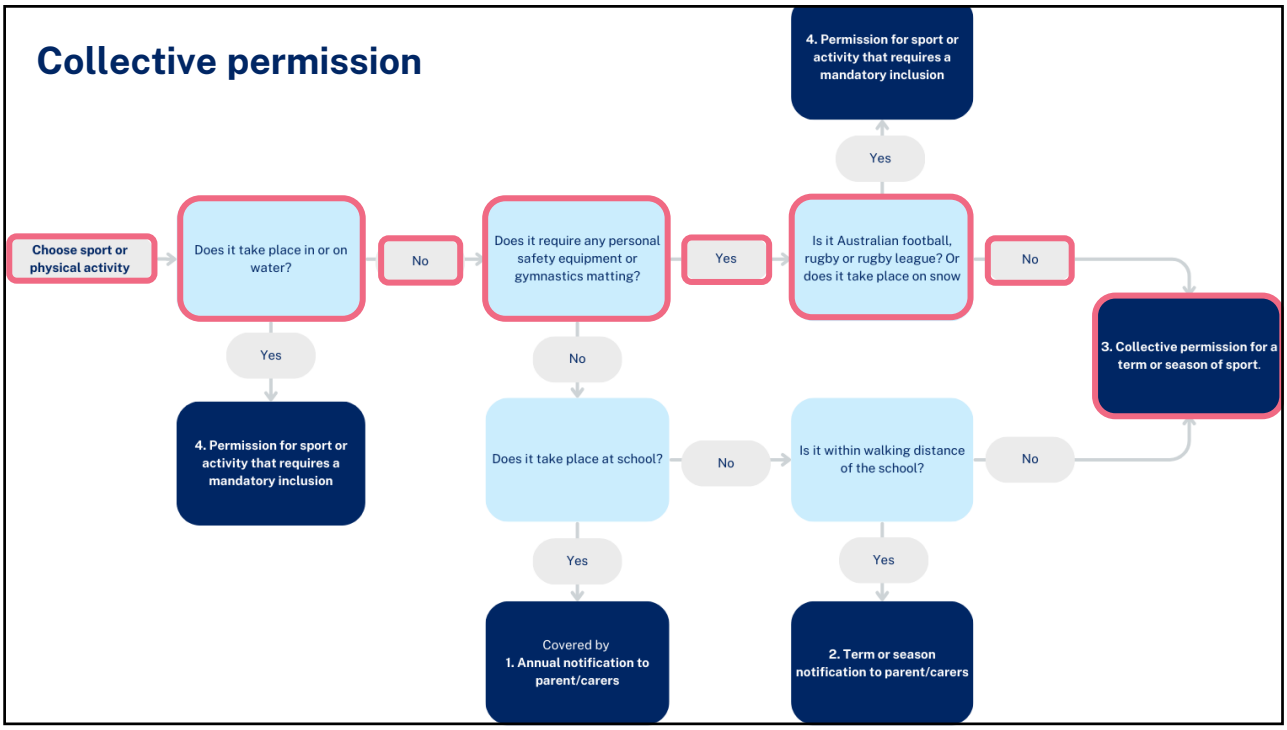
Completed example

Schools building a term or season notification must include:

- Our school values sport and physical activity and the essential role it plays in contributing to overall wellbeing for all students.
- School sport is co-curricular and is a mandatory part of the school week for all students.
- permission must haves (DOCX 35KB)
- sport/s on offer
- supervision
- location of sports
- protective and safety equipment being supplied by the school.

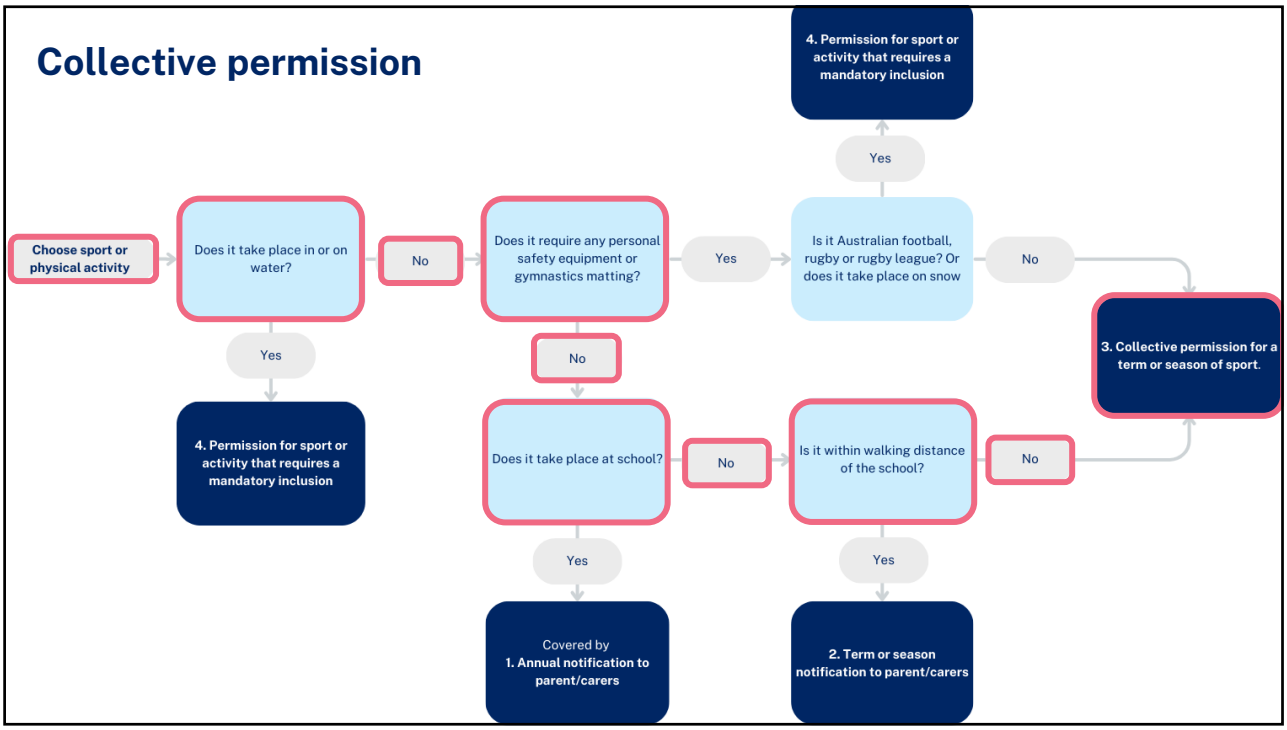
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Collective permission



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Collective permission



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3. Collective permission for a term or season

Schools must provide parents with details of the specific sport/s and obtain written permission at the beginning of each term or season for sports that:

- require transport
- require personal safety equipment
- require gymnastics matting
- do not involve collision
- do not take place in or on water
- are not on snow.

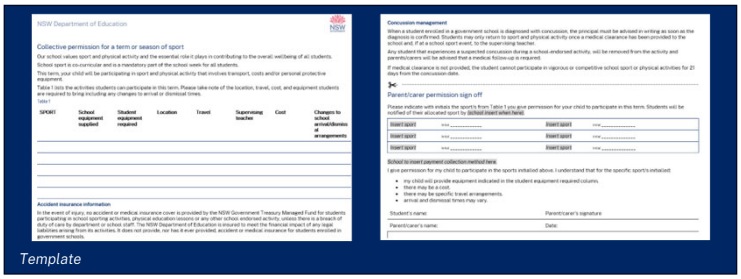
This permission level provides schools with the option to include one or several sports on the one permission note. Schools can choose to list all sports that are on offer for the season or term. If any details change, parents must be notified.



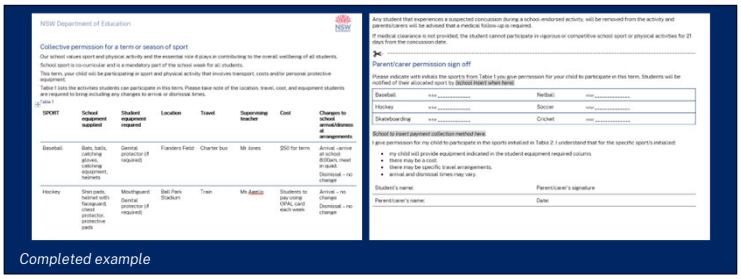
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Level 3 - Collective permission for term or season of sport



Template



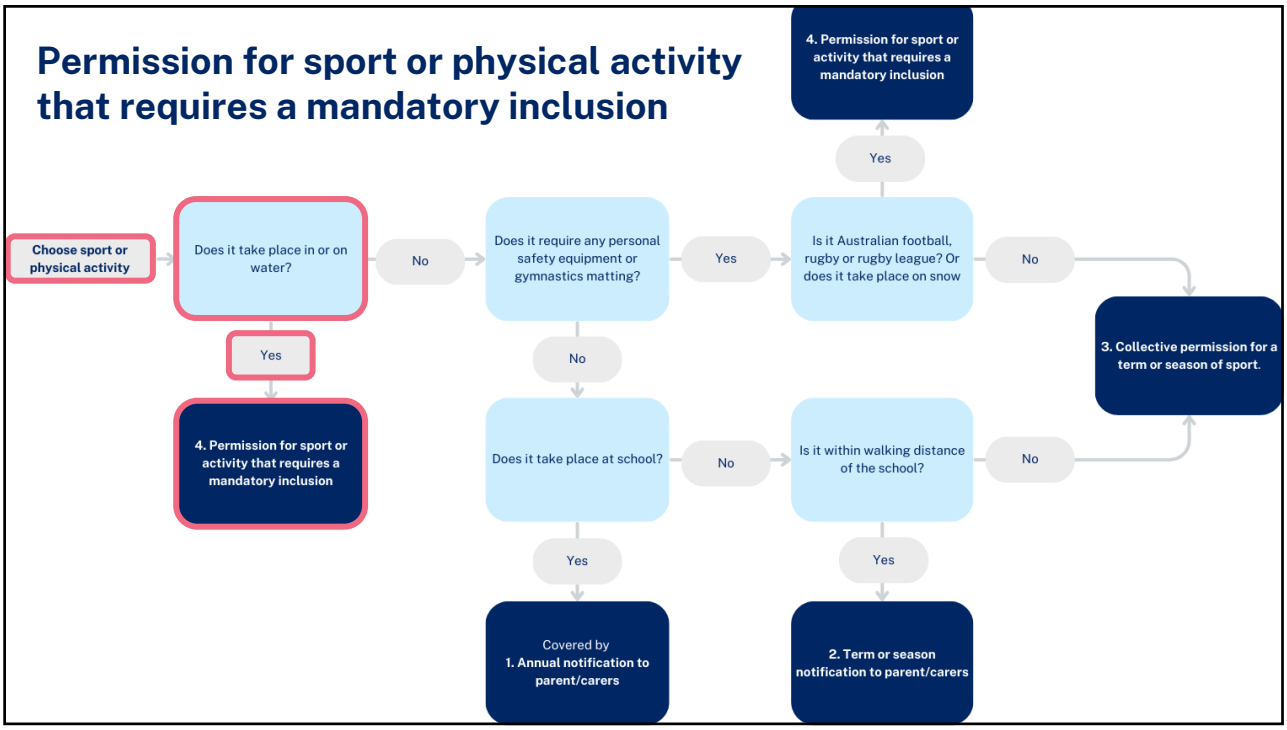
Completed example

Schools building permission notes for collective permission must include:

- Our school values sport and physical activity and the essential role it plays in contributing to overall wellbeing for all students.
- School sport is co-curricular and is a mandatory part of the school week for all students.
- permission must haves (DOCX 35KB)
- sport/s on offer
- location of sports
- supervision
- protective and safety equipment being supplied by the school
- protective and safety equipment student is required to provide.

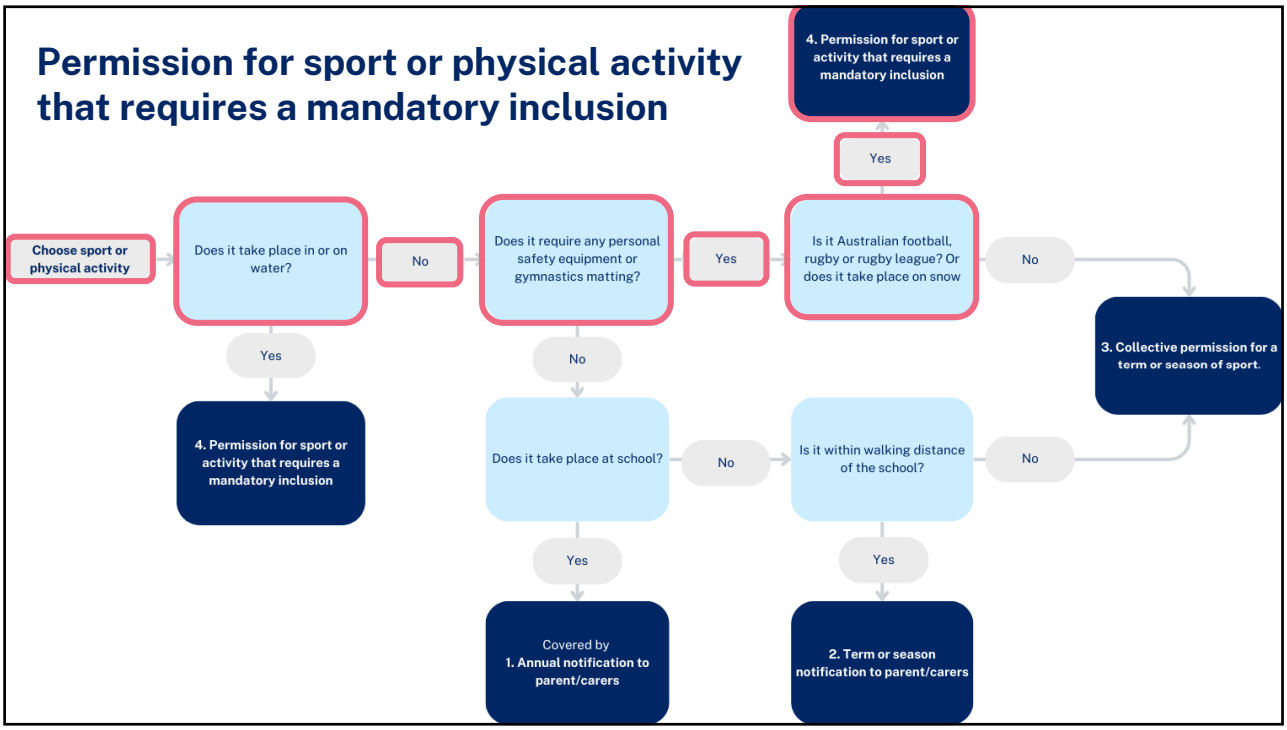
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Permission for sport or physical activity that requires a mandatory inclusion



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Permission for sport or physical activity that requires a mandatory inclusion



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4. Permission for sport/s that require a mandatory inclusion

Written parental permission that includes a specific mandatory inclusion is required for the sport/s listed below:

- Collision – Australian football, rugby league, rugby
- Structured swimming
- Unstructured swimming
- On water – rafting, kayaking, canoeing, stand-up paddleboarding – THIS HAS BEEN TAKEN DOWN AT THIS STAGE.
- Snow sports

The permission note must only contain information relevant to the specific sport. Collective permission is not permitted.



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Level 4 - Permission for sport or activity that requires a mandatory inclusion


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Sample template - Permission for sport or activity that requires a mandatory extract

Our school values sport and physical activity and the essential role it plays in contributing to overall wellbeing for all students.

School sport is co-curricular and is a mandatory part of the school week for all students.

This term, your child has requested to participate in insert sport. This sport program involves transport, costs and/or personal protective equipment.

Table 1 outlines the details of the insert sport program. Please take note of the location, travel, cost, and equipment students are required to bring plus any changes to arrival or dismissal times.

Table 1

SPORT	School protective equipment supplied	Student protective equipment required	Location	Travel	Cost	Changes to school arrival/dismissal arrangements

Accident insurance information

In the event of injury, no accident or medical insurance cover is provided by the NSW Government Treasury Managed Fund for students participating in school sporting activities, physical education lessons or any other school endorsed activity, unless there is a breach of duty of care by department or school staff. The NSW Department of Education is insured to meet the financial impact of any legal liabilities arising from its activities. It does not provide, nor has it ever provided, accident or medical insurance for students enrolled in government schools.

Concussion management

When a student enrolled in a government school is diagnosed with concussion, the principal must be advised in writing as soon as the diagnosis is confirmed. Students may only return to sport and physical activity once a medical clearance has been provided to the school and, if at a school sport event, to the supervising teacher.

Any student that experiences a suspected concussion during a school-endorsed activity, will be removed from the activity and parents/carers will be advised that a medical follow-up is required.

If medical clearance is not provided, the student cannot participate in vigorous or competitive school sport or physical activities for 21 days from the concussion date.

Sport specific mandatory inclusion

Parent/carer permission sign off

School to insert payment collection method here

Please complete below and return to insert collection process by insert date.

Template


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Completed example - Permission for sport or activity that requires a mandatory inclusion

Our school values sport and physical activity and the essential role it plays in contributing to overall wellbeing for all students.

School sport is co-curricular and is a mandatory part of the school week for all students.

This term, your child has requested to participate in Australian football. This sport program evolves transport, costs and/or personal protective equipment.

Table 1 outlines the details of the Australian football program. Please take note of the location, travel, cost, and equipment students are required to bring plus any changes to arrival or dismissal times.

Table 1

SPORT	School protective equipment supplied	Student protective equipment required	Location	Travel	Cost	Changes to school arrival/dismissal arrangements
Australian football	Post padding	Mouthguard	Flanders Field	Charter bus	$30 for term	Arrive usual at school 8am, meet in quad. Dismissal – no change

Accident insurance information

In the event of injury, no accident or medical insurance cover is provided by the NSW Government Treasury Managed Fund for students participating in school sporting activities, physical education lessons or any other school endorsed activity, unless there is a breach of duty of care by department or school staff. The NSW Department of Education is insured to meet the financial impact of any legal liabilities arising from its activities. It does not provide, nor has it ever provided, accident or medical insurance for students enrolled in government schools.

Concussion management

When a student enrolled in a government school is diagnosed with concussion, the principal must be advised in writing as soon as the diagnosis is confirmed. Students may only return to sport and physical activity once a medical clearance has been provided to the school and, if at a school sport event, to the supervising teacher.

Any student that experiences a suspected concussion during a school-endorsed activity, will be removed from the activity and parents/carers will be advised that a medical follow-up is required.

If medical clearance is not provided, the student cannot participate in vigorous or competitive school sport or physical activities for 21 days from the concussion date.

Australian football school

Australian football is a co-curricular sport. By signing this permission note, I understand that:

- my child must undertake an appropriate skill training program to enable them to play Australian football as part of the school sport program.
- the wearing of a correctly fitted mouthguard is mandatory in all games and training sessions. My child will bring their own correctly fitted mouthguard.
- while efforts are made to minimise the possibility of injury, there will remain some degree of risk inherent in participation in this co-curricular sport.

Parent/carer permission sign off

School to insert payment collection method here

Please complete below and return to insert collection process by insert date.

Any students who do not have permission will be asked to choose a different sport.

☐ I do not give permission for my child to participate in Australian football. My child is required to choose another sport for school sport.

☐ I give permission for my child to participate in Australian football.

I undertake:

- my child will provide equipment indicated in the student equipment required column.
- the costs
- travel arrangements
- arrival and dismissal times.

Student's name: Parent's signature

Parent's name: Date:

Completed example

Schools building permission notes for sport/s that require/s a mandatory inclusion must include:

- Our school values sport and physical activity and the essential role it plays in contributing to overall wellbeing for all students.
- School sport is co-curricular and is a mandatory part of the school week for all students.
- permission must haves: (DOCX 35KB)
- sport/s on offer
- location of sport
- supervision
- protective and safety equipment being supplied by the school
- protective and safety equipment student is required to provide
- mandatory sport-specific inclusion for the relevant sport/s.

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Questions, comments and suggestions



Please place comments and suggestions in chat.

Raise hand for question.

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