



## ACHPER (SA) Position Statement

### External Providers for Schools

ACHPER (SA) is committed to enhancing, supporting and advocating for quality health and physical education (HPE) to achieve our vision of active and healthy South Australians.

ACHPER (SA) believes it is important for schools and a range of organisations across the Health and Physical Education Learning Area to work together to improve learner achievement. ACHPER (SA) plays a key role supporting State Sporting Associations, clubs and a range of health agencies to create stronger links between schools and community organisations.

Programs conducted within the school setting need to be consistent with the parameters outlined below:

1. Any activity or program delivered by an external school provider and implemented during **planned curriculum time** must be a part of a planned, comprehensive HPE curriculum program and linked directly to learning outcomes or learning intentions of this balanced program.

The ACHPER National position statement: "The Importance of the Health and Physical Education learning area in schools, asserts that, *"Health and Physical Education is the curriculum area that engages students in worthwhile learning experiences to develop skills, knowledge, understanding, self-efficacy and dispositions that will enable young people to live healthier, safe and active lives....."*

It is essential that external providers programs contribute to the HPE program and learner achievement. Content and teaching methodology must be consistent with the propositions that have shaped the Australian Curriculum: Health & PE (AC: HPE). Learning outcomes should be matched to the achievement standards and content descriptors in the curriculum. ACHPER (SA) encourages external providers to develop explicit links to the Australian Curriculum: Health & PE. This enables the provider to assist schools delivery of a quality HPE curriculum.

An external provider's program should not be used as a replacement for the health and physical education program or teacher.

The ACHPER (SA) Position statement: User pays Health and Physical Education Curriculum outlines the following points:

- *"Well planned teaching and learning programs revolve around the needs of children and students and are moulded and adapted over time subject to continuous formative assessment. Drop in programs are unable to do this.*
- *It is the school responsibility to provide a comprehensive and appropriately resourced HPE program.*
- *It is the school's responsibility, without charge, to provide a comprehensive and appropriately resourced HPE program as part of the curriculum*

- *Each school should have an appropriately qualified HPE educator delivering, monitoring and planning the school's HPE program, and*
- *External providers should value add to a school's HPE program, not be used as a substitute."*

2. The ACHPER National Position Statement: Support of the Australian Curriculum: Health and Physical Education states

*".... that teachers are responsible for the delivery of the HPE curriculum and have to ensure that any level of engagement in programs delivered by outside providers enhance existing HPE programs within the school".*

At a minimum it is expected that:

- Any part of the planned curriculum delivered by an external provider will be delivered by a professional, preferably a qualified teacher, but one who has the skills, experience and knowledge that are at a minimum consistent with the AITSL Graduate Teachers Standards.
- The external provider would deliver content that reinforces the breadth and depth of the HPE program and draws links to the existing HPE and wider school curriculum as appropriate.
- Unless the external provider can demonstrate, at a minimum, delivery of programs consistent with parameter 2 above we would caution schools against using such providers during planned curriculum time.
- All education sites should have access to specialist teaching to enhance the development of quality and productive health and physical education pedagogy and programs. This should include direct teaching responsibilities, support to classroom teachers and the facilitation of school/community links (See: ACHPER (SA) Position Statement: The place of HPE in the School Curriculum.)

3. It is important for schools to recognise that external providers enable schools to access support from a diverse range of community groups. Depending on the school context and the specific needs of their students, schools need to be aware of and actively promote, the many and varied activities available outside of the external providers programs and resources.

ACHPER (SA) encourages schools that choose external providers to ensure that all aspects of the program conducted during planned curriculum time are clearly implemented in a manner consistent with the school HPE and wider education program.

ACHPER (SA) is committed to enhancing, supporting and advocating for quality health and physical education and is available to support your ongoing important work.

**Accepted and endorsed by the ACHPER (SA) Board May, 2015**

For a list of ACHPER (SA) and ACHPER National position statements, please visit <http://www.achpersa.com.au/wb/pages/about-us/position-statements.php>

Should you seek further advice, consultancy support for professional development or curriculum writing, or wish to discuss this statement please contact ACHPER (SA) on 08 8363 5700 [info@achpersa.com.au](mailto:info@achpersa.com.au)