

Basketball Australia
Senate Submission
No School No Play
October 2012

Basketball Australia is currently conducting a very successful program, in partnership with DEEWR's No School No Play Program. The program is aimed at using sport to motivate kids to take ownership of their future and to engage fully in school. We are working with approximately 700 students throughout Australia (Northern NSW, Western Syd, NT, SA and Tasmania) who have been identified by their schools as "at risk" of disengaging from their studies. Many of these students are Indigenous, reflective of the fact that Indigenous Australians have a lower school attendance than any other group.

Three of our programs (NT, Northern NSW and SA) are funded by DEEWR. BA have established relationships with the local community and businesses for the remaining two communities (Western Sydney and Tasmania). We have had support provided by three local Woolworths Store Managers (Western Sydney), a local Westpac branch (Western Sydney), and the local PCYC (Tasmania). Without this support, we wouldn't be able to run these programs successfully.

BA also has a formal agreement with the SA Aboriginal Sports Training Academy (SAASTA), which is part of the Department of Education and Children's Service. SAASTA along with Basketball SA worked together with specific schools to run the No School No Play program. Basketball SA worked particularly in those areas where the local association was not strong.

BA works with the local schools and school teachers to ensure that all programs are consistent in the measurement of the attendance so we can select the correct winning schools. The particular format of each program varies (depending on the respective circumstances) however the focus on improving the engagement of students in school and of them taking "ownership" over the direction of their schooling remains.

The table below shows the schools and students involved in last year's program.

School name	Town / City	State	Total Number of Students	Number of Aboriginal & Torres Strait Islander students participating	
				Boys	Girls
South Grafton High School	Grafton, Coffs Harbour	NSW	15	4	5
Grafton High School	Grafton, Coffs Harbour	NSW	16	6	0
Coffs Harbour High School Orara High School	Coffs Harbour	NSW	18	2	5
Nambucca High School	Nambucca, Coffs Harbour	NSW	14	6	5

Bowraville High School	Bowraville, Coffs Harbour	NSW	15	5	0
Bellingen High School	Bellingen, Coffs Harbour	NSW	20	6	6
Dorrigo High School	Dorrigo, Coffs Harbour	NSW	15	3	1
Kempsey High School	Kempsey, Coffs Harbour	NSW	27	8	0
Melville High School	Kempsey, Coffs Harbour	NSW	20	11	7
Ceduna Area School	Ceduna	SA	13	9	4
Christies Beach High School	Christie Downs	SA	12	6	6
Cooper Pedy Area School	Cooper Pedy	SA	13	7	6
Fremont Elizabeth City High School	Elizabeth	SA	14	6	2
John Pirie Secondary School	Port Pirie	SA	12	6	6
Le Fevre High School	Semaphore	SA	11	5	2
Maitland Area School	Maitland	SA	15	2	6
Murray Bridge High School	Murray Bridge	SA	20	11	9
Para West Adult Campus	Davoren Park	SA	18	5	4
Port Lincoln High School	Port Lincoln	SA	17	8	9
Roma Mitchell Secondary College	Gepps Cross	SA	11	8	3
Stuart High School	Whyalla Stuart	SA	12	3	9
Plumpton High School	Mount Druitt, Western Sydney	NSW	22	4	0
St Clare's Catholic College	Hassall Grove, Mount Druitt	NSW	14	5	2
Shalvey High School	Shalvey, Western Sydney	NSW	16	0	0
Dunheved High School	St Mary's, Western Sydney	NSW	22	6	0
Mount Druitt High School	Dharruk, Western Sydney	NSW	14	5	5
Bidwell High School	Bidwell, Western Sydney	NSW	24	16	8

The participating schools in each program earn points based upon the involvement of each of the students in those activities and also in the students improving their attendance. At the start of each term the student sets a goal for their own attendance. If they are not meeting the goal, they cannot Participate in the program. The activities will not just be playing “5 on 5” basketball; the students will be involved in a range of roles on their team other than playing (e.g. team photographer, team journalist etc.)

Based upon this scoring, two schools win a chance to play before national league games in Term 4. This is not designed to simply find the schools with the best basketball teams. Instead, schools will be rated based upon the participation and engagement of students in all aspects of the program. Obviously, students only get to go on the trip if they, individually, have meet their target the program.

In 2012, we are also working towards a national carnival where all our programs travel to a central location for a 2-3 day carnival. This gives the students an opportunity to compete against other students they may never be able meet or play against. We are also hoping to have our national league team’s link in with this.

While only 10 out of 30 schools will ultimately win the ‘prize,’ the teachers and schools regard this program as particularly successful because 80% of their students improved their engagement with the school and in particular 90% improved their number of days attended. The program also provides an opportunity for all students that they otherwise may have never had. It teaches them not only the importance of attending school but many other life skills. With this program they will learn the game of basketball and through basketball they will learn skills like team work, loyalty, patience, dedication, communication, working with different people and as a team.

The schools currently involved in our Coffs Harbour Program have, on average, improved their attendance by at least 25% per term. One school in particular went from an average of 50% attendance in term 1 to a staggering 91% in term 2. Overall, the increase has been a 60% increase, involving the 200 students involved in the Northern NSW program. In Western Sydney, one class involved in the program involves children with intellectual and integration disabilities. Indeed, there are twins that cannot ordinarily be included in the same classroom due to behavioral problems that have worked positively together in our program. These are only two examples of the success in the program.

Attached are the 2011 attendance and engagement results as well as a link to 2 news stories (Channel 7 and the ABC) on the program and also one of the many stories covered by local media for the program.

<http://au.news.yahoo.com/nsw/latest/a/-/article/15182458/sport-program-turns-truants-into-true-achievers/>

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uS3it2PuHbs&feature=youtu.be>

No School No Play Student Attendance Goals				
<i>If you are using Student Attendance Goals as part of your strategy, please report the following information from 2011.</i>				
3d(i): In Term 1 2011 , how many participating students: set personal attendance targets Achieved personal attendance targets	No. of participating students	No. of students who set targets	No. of students who achieved targets	Achieved/improved "engagement" target
		43		
3d(ii): In Term 2 2011 , how many participating students: set personal attendance targets Achieved personal attendance targets Achieved "engagement" target	No. of participating students	No. of students who set targets	No. of students who achieved targets	Achieved/improved "engagement" target
	154	154	56	20
3d(iii): In Term 3 2011 , how many participating students: set personal attendance targets Achieved personal attendance targets	No. of participating students	No. of students who set targets	No. of students who achieved targets	Achieved/improved "engagement" target
	393	373	261	55
3d(iv): In Term 4 2011 , how many participating students: set personal attendance targets Achieved personal attendance targets	No. of participating students	No. of students who set targets	No. of students who achieved targets	Achieved/improved "engagement" target
	393	373	261	70

Key Recommendation

The success of this program has been very clearly measured: 80% of their students who undertook NSNP improved their engagement with their school and 90% improved their number of days attended.

Further, there is strong community support for the program, with local sponsors donating a substantial amount of support to expand NSNP into areas which might not have otherwise been serviced.

Commonwealth funding for this project will expire on 31st December 2012 and we have been advised no further funding will be made available for this project.

However, local sponsorship is simply not sufficient to continue the program in its current scope, let alone expand the program.


It is Basketball Australia's strong recommendation that funding be continued for this project – at an absolute minimum for the amount of \$2 million over two years.

24 NEWS

NEWS 1-24 **WHAT'S ON** 22,23 **REAL ESTATE** 25-40 **LIFESTYLE** 41-47 **CLASSIFIEDS** 48-54 **SPORT** 55-56

Conversations.

TALK WITH YOUR COMMUNITY

Our say  The Odour Unit, a team of dedicated "sniffers" is out attempting to detect the source of the offending smell.

- Editorial below

Your say  I would like to see a change of government so that this area might get some improvements that are badly needed.

- Anne Healy's letter below

Write to us

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EDITORIAL

SMELLS LIKE TEAM SPIRIT

Residents of Erskine Park and St Clair must be relieved something is finally being done to solve the mystery of the putrid smell often languishing around the area. The Odour Unit, a team of dedicated "sniffers", is out attempting to detect the source of the offending smell. It must be said, the technique the team is using is fascinating. No fancy gadgets here - just the good old-fashioned nose. How do you become a member of the unit and what training is involved? It got us thinking about all the weird and wonderful jobs

Councillors need to listen

Re: New Penrith Council takes shape, (Mt Drutt-St Marys Standard September 8).

I hope that all councillors get off their backsides and go around to different places and go to the committees and listen to what the people have to say.

I hope they also learn to answer their emails when they get sent one. After all, what is the point in having an email address if they don't use it.

It would be nice if they were to fix up all roads and footpaths instead of just the ones they live in.

Some of the parks' carparking areas are too small and driveways at some parks are so bad they flood each time it rains.

WILLIAM ARCHER, online reader
mtdruittstandard.com.au

Ballot form a disaster

NO SCHOOL, NO PLAY LAUNCH




Chifley federal Labor MP Ed Husic and former Sydney Kings coach Bob Turner visited Chifley College Shalvey Campus earlier this month. The No School, No Play program is all about promoting basketball, attendance at school and healthy eating. Former Kings captain Ben Knight was also part of the launch.

VOX pop


We asked residents in Dawson Mall if they thought we paid too much for tolls in Sydney.

DEBBIE ENGLISH Mt Drutt

 I don't have to pay because I don't use any roads with tolls. I live locally and work locally. Most people I know who live and work in the area don't have to use them.



JAMES TOLEDO Mt Drutt

 They are too expensive. I would definitely like to see less but then how do you justify building them - where do you get the money? I think they are

