



PROJECT SPOTLIGHT

Westminster School Co-Curricular Sport Review

Project background

The Westminster School Co-Curricular Sport Review was initiated by Westminster School Principal, Simon Shepherd in 2023. Against a broader backdrop of socio-cultural transition across Australia, the co-curricular sport landscape at Westminster is changing.

Sitting at the heart of the review is Westminster's continued commitment to meet student and family needs, provide a relevant and engaging co-curricular sport program for all year levels, deliver quality coaching and management services, and support coaches and teachers.

The School features a program of 13 key sports with outstanding sporting facilities including

- 22 acres of beautiful sporting fields including three football ovals, four soccer pitches, two softball diamonds, 10 tennis courts, 12 netball courts, four turf cricket pitches and four volleyball courts.
- Indoor stadium with two basketball or netball courts, three volleyball courts or eight badminton courts, large viewing area above the courts. The Centre also has an aerobic training room with spin bikes, a climbing wall, change rooms, dance studio, and offices.
- Preparatory School gym.
- Aquatic facility: 10 x lane, 25m pool and a learner's pool.
- [The Thomas Pavilion](#)

With a proud history in delivering a highly successful co-curricular program, co-curricular sport provides an outstanding experiential learning opportunity for all students and is part of a holistic education at Westminster.



Westminster School Co-Curricular Sport Review

"Nikki brought great clarity and perspective to the complex process of reviewing co-curricular sport at a highly successful independent co-educational school. Her sporting background coupled with her emotional intelligence made it a pleasure to work with her. We're now using the review carried out by Nikki to inform our strategic planning and future directions" (Simon Shepherd, Principal Westminster School Adelaide).

Project objectives

The review explored the current state of co-curricular sport at Westminster School. The key objectives of the project were to ensure:

1. The School sports program meets the needs of the students it serves.
2. A successful, thriving and sustainable future of co-curricular sport at Westminster School.
3. The School's infrastructure, and participation and high performance programs can be most effectively maximised.

Project methodology and key project milestones summary

- Literature review – desktop research of relevant websites, documents and data.
- Seven x stakeholder consultation focus groups and interviews.
- Co-curricular Sport Insights Survey (distributed to the School community, receiving over 500 responses).
- Fortnightly meetings with the Principal.
- Issues and Opportunities Paper.
- Final Report and recommendations.

Six critical success factors identified

The following critical success factors were identified and expanded on in the project report with 17 detailed recommendations:

1. Identity & culture
2. Strategic framework
3. Participation pathways & high performance
4. Resourcing & staff development
5. Facilities
6. Communications & brand

Acknowledgement

Life Sport Journey thanks Westminster School and the school community for their commitment to this project, and all stakeholders who generously contributed their time and valuable insights informing the review and recommendations.

Contact

Nikki Burger, Sport Strategist & Leadership Consultant

e: nikki@lifesportjourney.com

m: 0416 128 094

w: www.lifesportjourney.com.au