The planning considerations that are common to all curriculum activities can be found in the CARA generic template. These must be considered as well as the activity-specific considerations outlined below.

**Activity scope**
This guideline relates to student participation in Australian football (AFL) as a curriculum activity, including skills development, training and competitions.

**Mandatory/special requirements**
*Mandatory requirements must be met for the activity to be conducted. Special requirements are to be considered in the planning and delivery of this activity.*

Modified versions of AFL may include additional and/or alternate risks and equipment that should be considered in planning this activity.

Students involved in opposition based drills and contact games must wear a mouthguard in order to participate.

Competition games must be controlled by qualified coaches and umpires.

During competition, a qualified first aid officer/sports trainer should be readily accessible to the field(s) of play to provide immediate first aid assistance. There must be phone access to call an ambulance if required.

Guidelines/codes of practice are established for this activity. Refer to AFL Community.

**Risk level**
- **Medium** risk: Teaching of modified games, adhering to the AFL Sport Education in Physical Education Program or other modified non-contact/minimal contact versions of AFL.
- **High** risk: Teaching of AFL skills, training and competitions.

**Minimum supervision requirements**
- Covered in the Planning Considerations section as outlined in the CARA generic template.

**Minimum qualifications for supervisors**

*Medium risk level*
- A registered teacher with competence (knowledge and skills) in the teaching of AFL.
  OR
- A registered teacher or other activity leader (as appropriate for the age group) with:
  - U/6 to U/11: **Level 1 (Junior)** coaching accreditation from AFL Queensland. This course may be undertaken through the Get Active Queensland Accreditation Program (GAQAP).
    OR
  - U/12 to U/17: **Level 1 (Youth)** coaching accreditation from AFL Queensland. This course may be undertaken through GAQAP.
High risk level

- An adult with Level 1 (Youth) coaching accreditation from AFL Queensland. This course may be undertaken through GAQAP.

Minimum requirements for equipment/facilities

- A clearly defined playing area (including boundary clearances) that is level, grassed and away from buildings, pedestrians and other activities.
- An injury management procedure (including head injuries) in place. Refer to Queensland School Sport Competition Procedures concussion policy.
- Goal and behind posts padded as follows:
  - a minimum of 35mm thick foam padding, covered in canvas or painted
  - a minimum height of 2.5m from the bottom of each goal and behind post
  - a suitable width to allow the padding to be fixed around each goal and behind post
  - the padding must be securely attached around each goal and behind post.
- Footwear appropriate to the playing surface, type of activity (i.e. training or match) and age of participants.

Hazards and controls

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Hazards</th>
<th>Control measures</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Body contact</td>
<td>• Enforce rules regarding physical contact and dangerous play specific to the sport.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Environmental conditions</td>
<td>• Clearly define the playing and clearance areas prior to play commencing. AFL Queensland recommend a clearance of 5m surrounding the playing area.</td>
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<td>• If the recommended boundary clearance is not met, provide instructions to the officials/supervisors and students about the limited clearance zone and the steps they could take to ensure safety, including the following:</td>
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<tr>
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<td>- reduce the size of the playing field to achieve an adequate clearance zone</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- remove spectators/dangerous obstacles within the clearance zone</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- station supervisors near any obstacles within the clearance zone</td>
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<td></td>
<td>- pad any obstacles located within the clearance zone.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Ensure drink breaks occur regularly (i.e. drink breaks are recommended every 30 minutes in conditions of extreme temperature) and drinks are available for individual players between drink breaks.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>• If one or more students are wearing footwear, ensure all students have footwear.</td>
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<td></td>
<td>• Inspect boots before each match. Any boots with loose, sharp-edged or excessively worn studs and sharp-edged soles should not be worn.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Student considerations</td>
<td>• Adhere to AFL Next Generation Australian Football Match Policy for the conduct of the game for players under 18.</td>
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<td>• Select students for on field position(s) on the basis of ability, size and suitability.</td>
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<td>• Ensure training is specific to player position.</td>
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<td>• Ensure students pass through the skills and knowledge areas associated with AFL before participating at a level governed by the full laws of the game.</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>• Modify games to match the age, skill and fitness levels of students.</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
**Additional links**

- Queensland School Sport Unit  
  [https://queenslandschoolsport.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx](https://queenslandschoolsport.eq.edu.au/Pages/default.aspx)

- Sports Medicine Australia Injury Fact Sheets  

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