

AFL SPECIALIST PROGRAM

YEAR 7 2026



The AFL Specialist Program at Ellenbrook Secondary College provides specialist coaching to develop students' skills in Australian Rules Football. The program enhances player performance while fostering leadership, umpiring, and coaching experience.

Key Features

- Specialist Coaching – offensive/defensive skills, tactics and strategies.
- Fitness and Conditioning – training aligned with AFL and WAFL standards.
- High-Performance Environment – weekly training and game experience.
- Pathway Opportunities – endorsed by East Perth Football Club and WA Football Commission.
- Strong Community Links – Partnerships with local junior football clubs.
- Future Pathways – VET Certificate in Sports Coaching planned for 2026.

Program Structure

- Two practical training sessions and one Health class weekly.
- Individual progress reviews and skill development.
- Complements WAFL/community football programs.

Coaching Staff

- Highly qualified and extensive experience in AFL playing and coaching.
- Program Coordinator McLaine Thomson played for numerous local clubs across Perth metropolitan area and the Pilbara region for over 20 years. He is dedicated to developing young footballers' skills and fostering strong community values.



Facilities and Resources

- State-of-the-Art Gym – treadmills, rowers, weights, plyometric & boxing equipment.
- GPS tracking & video analysis for skill improvement.
- Access to State Swim Ellenbrook for recovery and hydrotherapy.

Camps and Tours

Students will have opportunities to participate in regional and interstate tours, including AFL matches and training experiences.

APPLICATION

To apply, students must:

- Submit an AFL Specialist Application Form **by Friday 25 July 2025.**
- Attend a trial on one of the following dates: 23/06/2025, 15/09/2025, or 08/12/2025 at 3:15 PM at Ellenbrook Secondary College Oval.
- If successful, students will be offered a place in the program.
- To confirm acceptance, complete a general Ellenbrook SC Enrolment Form.

Note: A football clinic will be held at the College oval in Term 3 and 4, focusing on fundamentals and basic skills. This clinic is open to Year 5 and 6 students of all abilities.

CONTACT

McLaine Thomson
AFL Program Coordinator
T: 9297 9700
E: mclaine.thomson@education.wa.edu.au



Ellenbrook
Secondary College

100 Main Street, Ellenbrook 6069
T: 08 9297 9700
W: ellenbrooksc.wa.edu.au



Engagement
Success
Community

AFL Specialist Program 2026

Applications due by 25 July 2025

The Ellenbrook Secondary College Football Academy opened in 2022 with an initial intake of Year 7 students. The program provides ongoing development in the skills and attributes needed to play Australian Rules Football at the highest level.

In this program, students are given the opportunity to extend their knowledge of the rules and strategies of football. Greater emphasis is placed on all aspects of the sport, ranging from skill development to fitness requirements (draft camp testing), game strategies and coaching. There may be additional activities such as visit to the Fremantle Dockers and West Coast Eagles facilities and games, which may incur extra costs.

The program provides a well-rounded education of the sport, with two periods a week dedicated to practical sessions and one period for Health, in replacement of Physical Education.

There will be a significant focus on goal setting with regular one-on-one reviews. Students will have the opportunity to develop their skills in a high-performance environment through training and games. East Perth Football Club endorses the program in collaboration with the Western Australian Football Commission. These links will provide the students with opportunities to further develop as footballers, coaches, and umpires.

It is expected that students in this course are actively involved in Ellenbrook Secondary College's after school football teams. Students are expected to wear correct PE uniform to class and maintain school attendance above 90% to remain in the course.

Parents will be required to sign a contract to secure a place in this course and students may be removed from this program, should their behaviour or standard of participation be deemed unacceptable.

If you have any questions please feel free to contact myself, or our AFL Program Coordinator.

Thank you.

Mr Nathan Brown
Associate Principal

Mr McLaine Thomson
AFL Program Coordinator
mclaine.thomson@education.wa.edu.au

Application for AFL Specialist Program 2026

Student Name	
Year of Schooling	
Primary School	
Parent/Carer full name	
Contact number	
Parent email	
Briefly explain why you would like to be part of the Ellenbrook Secondary College AFL Program	
Describe your experiences and strengths with respect to AFL.	
Do you play club football outside of school?	<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO
If YES, which club do you play for?	
How many years of experience do you have playing AFL?	

THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED ALONG WITH ANY ATTACHED DOCUMENTS

Expressions of interest will not be considered without attendance at an after-school AFL Clinic, please contact Ellenbrook Secondary College for clinic dates.