



Media Release

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MELBOURNE STARS' DAVID HUSSEY AND CRICKET VICTORIA SUPPORT VICHEALTH'S WALK TO SCHOOL

Cricket Victoria and the Melbourne Stars are calling on all Victorian families and schools to join VicHealth's Walk to School program this October.

In an announcement at the MCG this morning, Cricket Victoria and the Melbourne Stars were named as this year's Community Partners for VicHealth's Walk to School month.

The Walk to School program is a free, easy and fun way for kids to get active every day, something the Melbourne Stars and Cricket Victoria are passionate about.

Cricket Victoria will be using its current schools programs to spread the Walk to School message and encourage all Victorian Primary Schools to register in a bid to help all students get the 60 minutes of activity they need every day.

Tony Dodemaide, CEO, Cricket Victoria said: "We're delighted to be part of this important initiative to get more children moving. We want to encourage kids across Victoria to sign up for VicHealth's Walk to School and walk, ride or scoot to school in October because exercise is fantastic for children's health and is a great way for families to spend time together."

VicHealth CEO Jerril Rechter congratulated the Melbourne Stars and Cricket Victoria for taking a leadership role in encouraging children to get active, saying the Stars would inspire young cricket fans across the state to take part in Walk to School.

"VicHealth's Walk to School is part of our long-term plan to get more Victorians living healthier and happier lives. Unfortunately, Australian children are now among the world's least active. Encouraging children to walk, ride or scoot to and from school improves their health and prevents chronic disease," Ms Rechter added.

Throughout October, Melbourne Stars personalities will be on hand to help kids walk, ride or scoot to and from school.

The Melbourne Stars will be offering an array of prizes to encourage school participation in Walk to School, including school excursions to the Stars' pre-season Practice Match at the MCG, family Stars memberships, Big Bash League tickets and cricket kits.

Batsman David Hussey said the team were supporting Walk to School because it was important to establish healthy habits at a young age.

"Physical activity should be considered an essential part of a healthy lifestyle for all children and Walk to School is a simple way to build daily activity into your child's day. I'm encouraging families to sign up for Walk to School in October and enjoy some quality time with your kids."

To register for Walk to School, visit www.walktoschool.vic.gov.au

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