



Sustainability Policy



Help for non-English speakers

If you need help to understand the information in this policy please contact the school on 9687 1535

PURPOSE

Sustainability is an issue that affects us all. At Footscray West Primary School we believe that we have an important role in developing a sustainably-minded school community and reducing our ecological footprint through the adoption of sustainable practices.

IMPLEMENTATION

To engage students, staff and the wider community in our whole school approach to sustainable actions, we implement the following strategies where safe and practicable by:

Curriculum

- incorporating sustainability units into curriculum of each level
- maintaining a Student Environment Team, which meets regularly to discuss current issues and keeps the student body and school community informed through: newsletter items, assembly presentations, class visits

Water

- reducing water usage and therefore the costs of water consumption for the school
- choosing the most effective means of conserving or capturing/collecting water
- planting trees and other vegetation that are predominantly native and drought tolerant
- regularly maintaining facilities, such as leaking taps, toilets etc.

Energy

- including students in the process of developing an Energy Efficient school
- using resources and equipment as efficiently as possible to reduce energy costs
- choosing the most appropriate energy saving methods available, such as, sensor lights, blinds, solar panels and having appliances that are 4 star plus energy rating

Waste

- practising waste wise principles of reduce, reuse and recycle; and to reduce the cost of waste and litter management
- minimising waste by using systems, such as, recycling bins, composting, litter free lunches
- striving for and maintaining litter-free school grounds
- continuing in-house recycling programs for printer cartridges and other electronic waste
- continuing to have yard clean ups and litter management, such as, eating inside, food only to be eaten in designated areas

Biodiversity

- creating an appreciation of the environmental habitats within the school
- choosing and using sustainable materials which reduce the impact on the environment
- planting trees and improving our vegetable garden in a manner that supports our native ecosystems
- involving the school community in the development and maintenance of the school grounds

Sustainable Procurement

When purchasing/procuring we will consider:

- whether the products are Australian made
- recycled/second hand or reusable goods where possible
- high energy star rating and 'Fairtrade' goods where possible
- environmentally friendly products

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL

Policy last reviewed	August 2021
Consultation	Not required. Reviewed by policy and planning
Approved by	Principal and tabled at school council
Next scheduled review date	2023

