

Sustainability

SCHOOL SPECIFIC POLICY

Rationale:

Sustainability at Wodonga South Primary School aims to reduce the environmental impact of our operations by reducing consumption of energy, water, and waste wherever possible. We will achieve this by continuing to integrate sustainability into all areas of the curriculum and instilling a sense of ownership of and pride in improving the environment. We will lead the community by demonstrating the following;

Aims:

Energy

- To reduce the use of Energy consumption within the school.
- Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- Include students in the process of developing and maintaining an Energy Efficient school.
- For students to be responsible for reducing energy use in their classrooms.
- To reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions.

Waste

- To minimise rubbish and recycle our waste throughout the school, as much as possible, on a daily basis.
- To minimise the amount of paper waste that is produced.
- To take responsibility for the disposal of food scraps, paper and rubbish in the appropriate manner.
- To reduce contamination of co-mingled recycling.

Biodiversity

- To use a garden plan for the future development of our school grounds.
- To utilise our garden areas to its full extent.
- To involve community members in the maintenance of school grounds.
- For each year level to have ownership in the upkeep of an area of school grounds.

Water

- To reduce the water consumption within the school.
- To use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- To involve students and staff in the planning of water conservation initiatives.

Implementation:

Curriculum Focus

- We aim to include a sustainability and environmental focus into the Inquiry unit across all year levels and in the classroom where possible.

Energy

- To promote a 'switch off when you leave' policy for technological equipment, lighting and heating/cooling.

- Students to engage in units of work relating to energy.
- Students will investigate the best ways to conserve energy.
- Monitor and complete the Resource Smart schools core unit of Energy.

Waste

- To assign students to dispose of waste and recycled products in the appropriate manner.
- Student monitors (Sustainability Leaders) to collect food waste daily and transfer to the green waste bin or the chickens.
- Install papercut to reduce the amount of wasted printing.
- Ensure the use of both sides of paper before disposal.
- To make print both sides of paper a default.
- Encourage double-sided printing/photocopying where possible.
- Use recycled paper for printers, photocopiers.
- Promote the reuse of one-sided paper in classrooms, staffrooms and office.
- To reduce the level of waste for whole school activities – to implement a waste reduction into the planning process.
- The encouragement of a ‘Litter Free Lunch’ once a week, with the aim to increase the amount of days.

Biodiversity

- Involve community members in planting and maintaining our gardens.
- Enhance the sustainability area.
- Engage students and staff in the maintenance of our gardens.
- Continue to grow and harvest a range of vegetables/herbs.
- Encourage classrooms to work in the sustainability area.
- Participate in tree planting days.

Water

- To promote a ‘water-wise turn off’ policy.
- Students to engage in units of work relating to water consumption.
- To assign students (Sustainability Leaders) to monitor water usage and report wastage.
- Repair and replace faulty taps when required.
- Plant trees and plants that require minimal watering.

Evaluation:

- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school’s review cycle.

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

December 2017