

Sustainability Policy

March 2020

AIM:

Moorabbin Primary School aims to become a Sustainable School by reducing our ecological footprint through adopting sustainable practices in our everyday lives. We will achieve this by integrating sustainability in the curriculum and instilling a sense of ownership and pride in improving the school environment. We will lead the community by demonstrating exemplary practices in waste management, water and energy usage, and the development of the school grounds to promote biodiversity.

GUIDELINES:

Energy

- 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.

Waste

- To minimise rubbish and recycle our waste throughout the school, as much as possible, on a daily basis.
- To include the school community in the process of developing a Waste Wise school.
- Students to take responsibility for disposing of food scraps, paper and rubbish in the appropriate manner.
- To promote rubbish free lunches and (reward those who participate regularly).
- To maintain the compost bin/worm farm.

Biodiversity

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

Water

- To reduce and recycle 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.
- Assign students to monitor water usage and report wastage.
- To encourage students to appreciate the value of water.

AIMS & TARGETS:

We aim to achieve the following goals and targets over the next three years:

1. To reduce waste by 70%.
2. To reduce water consumption by 40%.
3. To reduce energy consumption by 25%.
4. To reduce weeds by 50% and increase habitat onsite.

IMPLEMENTATION:

Curriculum Focus

There will be an environmental focus incorporated into the inquiry unit across all year levels.

Energy

- To promote a 'switch off and save' 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.
- To promote efficient use of heaters.

Waste

- To assign students to dispose of waste and recycled products daily in the appropriate manner.
- To assign students to monitor rubbish free lunches and each term award the class who has the most rubbish free lunches.
- For monitors to collect food waste daily and transfer it to the compost bin.
- For students to dispose of paper into recycling bins.
- Recycled copy paper will be used for printers and photocopiers.
- Promote the reuse principle of paper in classrooms, staffroom and office.

Biodiversity

- Consult local community members on ways to improve our garden (e.g. Where to plant, what to plant).
- Involve community members in planting and maintaining our gardens.
- Engage students and staff in the maintenance of our gardens.
- To plant more trees and plants around the school grounds.

Water

- To promote a 'water-wise turn off' policy.
- Students to engage in units of work relating to water conservation.
- To assign students to monitor water usage and report wastage.
- Plant trees and plants that require minimal watering.

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT:

We will encourage community participation in environmental projects undertaken, as well as, invite parents with expertise to help maintain and improve our school environment. We will also promote sustainable living through educating the school community through our students.

All people within our school will be informed and responsible for implementing these programs. The various committees in conjunction with the Principal will be responsible for keeping records and reporting on the outcomes and progress of each program to the whole school community, through school newsletters and the annual report. The parties involved will provide reports to staff and School Council outlining the goals, aims, costing, savings and other relevant issues.

EVALUATION:

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's four year review cycle.