



Environmental Sustainability Policy

Aims

- A. To become an environmentally sustainable school by reducing our ecological footprint through adopting sustainable practices school wide.
- B. To promote environmentally sustainable attitudes and behaviour throughout the school community.
- C. To embed an environmentally conscious culture through curriculum and extra-curricular activities and instilling a sense of ownership of and pride in improving the environment.

Scope and Application

This policy is available on the school website and applies to:

- A. Employees
- B. Students
- C. Parents
- D. Community members
- E. Visitors to the school

Definitions

- A. **Sustainability** – addresses the ongoing capacity of Earth to maintain all life. Sustainable patterns of living meet the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their needs. Actions that support more sustainable patterns of living require consideration of environmental, social, cultural and economic systems and their interdependence.
- B. **Environmental sustainability** – addresses the environmental aspects of sustainability, including conserving natural resources and biodiversity, minimizing waste and pollution and reducing environmental impact of purchases and projects.

Principles

- A. Environmental sustainability at Kerry Street Community School will be undertaken as a whole school community. We will encourage community participation in environmental projects undertaken, as well as invite parents with expertise to help maintain and improve our school environment.
- B. Environmental sustainability will be embedded in our educational programs.

- C. An awareness of environmental sustainability issues will be developed within our school and the school community will be educated through our students.
- D. Environmentally sustainable practices include:
 - 1. **Waste** - minimising waste produced by the school and increasing the percentage of material that is reused / recycled and composted.
 - 2. **Energy** - creating greater energy efficiency for the school through smarter practices.
 - 3. **Biodiversity** - increasing the biodiversity around the school by planting indigenous species and increasing the habitat area for local wildlife.
 - 4. **Water** - minimising the consumption of water at the school through the improvement of plumbing systems and conservation programs.
 - 5. **Environmental Impact** - undertaking a 'green purchasing' program to reduce environmental impacts.
- E. Participation in environmental sustainability programs such as Sustainable Schools, Waste Wise, Water Wise, Clean Up Australia, National Tree Day etc. is encouraged.

Responsibilities

A. Board

- 1. Monitor and review this policy.
- 2. Ensure environmental sustainability is considered when developing the Strategic Plan and school policies.
- 3. Authorise any changes in the school environment to support environmentally sustainable initiatives involving capital expenditure.

B. Principal

- 1. Implement this policy.
- 2. Ensure environmental sustainability is considered when developing school procedures.
- 3. Oversee the embedding of environmental sustainability into educational programs.
- 4. Participate in school sustainability initiatives and practices.
- 5. Identify and support opportunities to improve school environmental sustainability practices.
- 6. Approve and oversee community environmental sustainability initiatives.

C. Teaching Staff

- 1. Embed environmental sustainability into educational programs.
- 2. Incorporate established environmental sustainability programs into the curriculum.
- 3. Participate in school environmental sustainability initiatives and practices.
- 4. Identify and support opportunities to improve school environmental sustainability practices.

D. Parents

1. Participate in school environmental sustainability initiatives and practices.
2. Identify and support opportunities to improve school environmental sustainability practices.

E. Students

1. Participate in school environmental sustainability initiatives and practices.
2. Identify and support opportunities to improve school environmental sustainability practices.

Related Legislation

- A. School Curriculum and Standards Authority Act 1997
- B. Occupational Safety and Health Act 1984
- C. Occupational Safety and Health Regulations 1996
- D. School Education Act 1999
- E. School Education Regulations, 2000

Related Kerry Street Documentation

- A. Procedures and Forms including:
 1. Sustainability Procedure
- B. Policies including:
 1. Buildings and Grounds Policy
 2. Communication Policy
 3. Community Member Participation Policy
 4. Curriculum Policy
 5. Curriculum Planning and Review of Student Learning Policy
 6. Workplace health and Safety Policy
- C. KSCS Strategic Plan
- D. KSCS Values and Philosophy

Contact Person

Enquiries relating to this policy should be directed to the School Principal or Board Chair.

Breaches of this Policy

Any breach of this policy may result in disciplinary action up to and including termination.

Revision History

Date	Revision	Detail
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August 2019	V.1	Policy and Procedures created. Waste Wise policy amalgamated into policy.
April 2021	V.1.1	Formatted. Policy list updated.