PURPOSE

Eastwood Primary School is committed to becoming a sustainable school for ensuring a better and healthier environment. Our students will undergo programs that will help them to better understand people’s effects on the environment and how we can all play a part in protecting habitats, recycling, conserving energy and managing our resources more efficiently. We will to provide our students with attitudes, habits and knowledge that will encourage sustainable living.

GENERAL AIMS

- To develop a school community that is environmentally aware and value sustainable living
- To reduce our energy consumption
- To reduce our water consumption
- To reuse materials wherever possible
- To reduce the amount of waste
- To educate our community members in responsible environmental habits and strengthen a culture of sustainable practices across it
- To become members of the AUSSI program in 2011
- To form a sustainability team to lead the school in developing a strategic environmental management plan

GUIDELINES

WATER

Water usage will be reduced through:
- Using water tanks to collect rainwater for watering gardens and flushing toilets
- Mulching gardens
- Planting drought resistant plants
- Ensuring leaking taps are fixed promptly
- Using water efficient drinking fountains

ENERGY

Energy usage will be reduced through:
- Reducing the use of heaters, air conditioners and lights
- Switching off appliances when not being used
- Keeping doors shut in cold weather
- Using awnings to reduce the need for air conditioning
- Purchasing energy efficient products

**BIODIVERSITY**

- To provide environmental grounds that students, parents and teachers will enjoy
- As much as possible, native plants and indigenous plants to our area will be planted in our grounds
- Plant life is to be monitored to ensure its renewal
- A variety of plant and animal life will be encouraged by planting appropriately.
- Students will monitor the amount of litter in the grounds and pursue a reduction in litter to protect our environment
- Rubbish free lunch days are to occur each term
- Using mulch in gardens to reduce weeds and the use of chemicals to control them
- Choosing materials both for indoors and outdoors that have less impact on the environment
- The Eastwood Community Garden is to provide students with practical experience in planting and caring for plants. It will also provide for partnerships with our wider community
- The use of chickens and worm farms helps reduce our environmental impact by reusing fruit and vegetable scraps
- Separate bins for compost, landfill rubbish and paper
- As part of their learning programs, students are to be encouraged to follow Reduce, Reuse and Recycle as a simple guide to help them minimise waste at school and home.

**EVALUATION**

The programs used to promote sustainability will be monitored, review and updated as needed. Water and electrical bills are to also be monitored to measure the success of our programs. Involvement of students, parents, teachers and members of the wider community is to be observed for measuring the effectiveness of this policy.

**EVALUATION.**

This policy can also be reviewed as required or will be reviewed as part of the school’s three year cycle.

**Approved by School Council:** November, 2010  
**Schedule review:** November, 2013