

## EASTWOOD PRIMARY SCHOOL

# SUSTAINABILITY

### **RATIONALE:**

Eastwood Primary School aims to reduce our ecological footprint through adopting sustainable practises in our everyday practices. 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 exemplary practices in waste management, water and energy usage, and continue to develop the school grounds to promote biodiversity.

### **AIM:**

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

1. To reduce waste by 25%.
2. To reduce water consumption by 10%.
3. To reduce energy consumption by 25%.
4. To increase the school community's involvement in the vegetable garden.

### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

#### **Energy**

- Reduce the use of energy consumption within the school
- Where possible, replace fluorescent lights with LED lamps
- Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible
- Include students in the process of developing and maintaining an Energy Efficient school
- Students to be responsible for reducing energy use in their classrooms e.g. monitors
- Reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions
- 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

#### **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. E.g. use paper on both sides, shred the paper etc...
- Students to take responsibility for disposing of food scraps, paper and rubbish in the appropriate manner
- To reduce contamination of commingled (container) recycling

- To have a “Nude Food School” on a permanent basis and students to take home any rubbish they bring to school
- To maintain the compost area/worm farm
- To assign students to dispose of waste and recycled products daily in the appropriate manner
- Student monitors to collect food waste daily and transfer it to the compost bin
- Encourage ‘Nude Food’ lunches across the school
- Encourage use of both sides of the paper before disposal
- Encourage double-sided printing/photocopying where possible
- Use recycled paper for printers, photocopiers
- Promote the reuse of one-sided paper in classrooms, staffroom and office

### **Biodiversity**

- To use a garden plan for the future development of our school grounds
- To utilise our garden area to its full extent
- To involve community members in maintenance of school grounds where appropriate
- 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
- Enhance the artificial creek area to attract more wildlife
- Engage students and staff in the maintenance of our gardens
- Continue to grow and harvest a range of vegetables/herbs to be utilised in kitchen garden program

### **Water**

- To reduce the water consumption within the school
- To use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible
- To use tank water to water gardens
- To maintain wetland ecosystem and creek bed to clean rainwater
- To involve students and staff in the planning of water conservation initiatives
- To promote a ‘water-wise’ turn-off practices
- Students to engage in units of work relating to water conservation
- Repair and replace faulty taps when required (using SEMP as a warning system)
- Plant trees and plants that require minimal watering.

### **Curriculum focus**

- There will be an environmental focus incorporated into the inquiry units across all year levels. Each year level will complete a unit of work in line with the Victorian Curriculum.

### **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 Sustainability teacher and Principal will be responsible for collecting data, 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:**

<b>Date Implemented</b>	July 2017
<b>Author</b>	Marie Beale
<b>Approved By</b>	School Council
<b>Approval Authority (Signature &amp; Date)</b>	
<b>Date Reviewed</b>	June 2017
<b>Responsible for Review</b>	Assistant Principal
<b>Review Date</b>	July 2020
<b>References</b>	Victorian Government Schools Policy Advisory Guide