

## **POLICY: SUSTAINABILITY**

### **PURPOSE:**

As part of Brentwood Primary School's environmental commitment, we will endeavour to practise sustainable living initiatives, promote energy efficiency, reduce water usage, increase biodiversity in the school gardens and encourage community practice in sustainability.

### **AIMS:**

#### **Waste**

- To continue the development of a zero waste ethic within the whole school community.
- To provide and maintain a healthy and aesthetically pleasing learning environment through the reduction of waste and litter.
- To practise the principles of refuse, reduce, reuse and recycle, encourage the school to undertake green purchasing and to reduce the cost of waste and litter management.

#### **Energy**

- To control energy consumption so that we reduce our impact on the natural environment and avoid unnecessary costs associated with wasting energy.
- To educate students, staff and whole community about the best practice for the use of energy consuming equipment and services.

#### **Biodiversity**

- To improve our outdoor natural environment, by planting trees that are conducive to our environment and indigenous where possible.
- To upgrade the play areas and making them environmentally friendly, using natural materials that reduce the impact on the environment.
- To educate the school community about incorporating biodiversity in our every day school life.

#### **Water**

- To promote actions that will reduce water usage.
- To appreciate water as a precious natural resource.
- To plant trees that are conducive to our environment and don't need much water.
- To educate the whole school community about ways to reduce water usage both indoors and outdoors.

### **IMPLEMENTATION:**

#### **Waste**

- To minimise and recycle our waste as much as possible on a daily basis.
- To use both sides of all paper in order to reduce waste.
- To continue to encourage the canteen to recycle packaging.
- To maintain a system that composts green waste.
- To reduce the amount of paper in the school by recycling and reusing before it is emptied into the recycle bin.

- To encourage green purchasing of cleaning products, stationery and other school supplies.
- To reduce the cost of 'skip' pick-up.
- To reuse garden waste as mulch.
- To include the students and staff in the process of developing a Resource Smart School

### **Energy**

- To reduce the costs of energy consumption within our school.
- To use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- To reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions we create to create a healthier impact on the environment.
- To choose the most appropriate energy saving methods available and
- To include students in the process of developing an Energy Efficient School

### **Biodiversity:**

- To use our garden plan for the future development of our school grounds.
- To create an environmental haven for students, staff and parents to enjoy.
- To choose materials that have less impact on the environment.
- For each year level to have ownership of an area in the school and
- To include the whole school community in the process of increasing biodiversity in our school.

### **Water:**

- To promote a 'water-wise/turn off' policy for plumbing fixtures.
- To re-invest savings made through conserving water, i.e. install dual flush cisterns.
- The use of water tanks to redirect storm water to flush toilets.
- Students to engage in units of work relating to water and
- To plant trees that requires minimal watering.

### **REVIEW:**

This policy will be evaluated as necessary.

**APPROVED BY SCHOOL COUNCIL: 13/11/2018**