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:
To minimise waste produced by the school and increase the percentage of material that is used and recycled.
To reduce the amount of energy used by the school through smarter practices and greater efficiency.
To increase the biodiversity of the school by planting indigenous species to increase the habitat of local wildlife.
To minimise the consumption of water at the school through the improvement of plumbing systems and conservation programs.

IMPLEMENTATION:
The following strategies will be incorporated into the regular practices of the school community:
Waste

- To minimise and recycle our waste as much as possible daily.
- To use both sides of all paper 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 recycle printer cartridges through Close the Loop.
- Safely and responsibly dispose of electronic devices (e.g. printers, hard drives and screens) through an accredited recycling facility.

Energy

- To reduce the costs of energy consumption within our school.
- To use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- To include students in the process of developing an energy efficient school. e.g. student energy monitors to check lighting, heating and equipment.
- To use renewable energy.eg the school has solar panel systems on the year six and gymnasium buildings.

Biodiversity:

- To encourage yard clean ups and litter management, such as eating inside, food to be only eaten in outdoor eating area, wrapper free lunch boxes.

Water:

- To promote the use of reusable water bottles.
- To promote a 'water-wise/turn off' mindset.
- To participate in the Victorian Government's Schools Water Efficiency program which allows the school to access to up-to-date water consumption information. The school uses this information to identify when excessive water consumption occurs.
- To install water tanks to redirect storm water to flush toilets.
- To monitor plumbing systems for leaking taps, toilets etc.

POLICY REVIEW AND APPROVAL:

Policy last reviewed	12/8/2025
Consultation	Consultation with school council and approved by School Council
Approved by	James Bell, principal
Next scheduled review date	May 2029