



Elwood Primary School No 3942

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POLICY NO. 43: School Environmental Policy

November 2010

PURPOSE

1. To commit on a whole-school level to promoting sustainability and demonstrating good environmental practice in the day to day running of the school.
2. To empower students to take responsibility for the care of the environment locally and globally.
3. To lead in the local community on the promotion of environmental sustainability.

BROAD GUIDELINES

Energy

1. To reduce the amount of energy being used in the school through improved practices and cleaner technologies.
2. To investigate and implement green technologies for our energy needs.
3. To educate the students about energy wise practices, including the use of transport, and to integrate energy into the curriculum.

Waste

1. To limit the amount of waste that is being produced by the school by following the 'waste wise' principles of reduce, reuse and recycle.
2. To reduce the amount of rubbish that Elwood PS is sending to the landfill by enlarging our recycling and composting programs.
3. To encourage students and parents to be more waste conscious.

Biodiversity

1. To improve our outdoor environment through the planting of suitable trees and vegetation that provides habitats for native animals.
2. To support the ongoing education of the school and local community about supporting the biodiversity in our municipality.

Water

1. To reduce water usage in our school through improved practice, improved facilities and making use of recyclable and storm water.
2. To appreciate water as an essential natural resource and to teach our students to respect it as such.
3. To educate the whole school community about ways to reduce water usage both indoors and outdoors.

IMPLEMENTATION

1. The environmental committee meets regularly to promote environmental awareness throughout the school and community, develop action plans, implement them, and to assess progress.
2. All events including the market, functions, and other activities at the school will be environmentally conscious and use a sustainable approach.
3. The school strives to complete all of the modules of the AUSSIVic certification process and become a 5 star sustainable school. The following projects have been tagged by the school as real and achievable goals that will greatly reduce Elwood Primary's impact on the environment and allow us become a 5 star sustainable school.

Energy

<i>Item</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Solar Panels	2012
Energy saving light bulbs	2011
Sensory controlled lighting	2011
Selling power back into grid while school is shut	Can be undertaken once solar panels are installed
Awnings for all windows	2012

Waste

<i>Item</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Establish a consistent rubbish free lunch day	2011
Rubbish sorting/ recycling in the classrooms	2011
Broaden the composting program to all of the classrooms and staffroom.	2011
Green purchasing in the office and wherever else possible. (Recycled paper for the photocopier, reusable whiteboard markers etc...)	Continue to expand upon what is already happening
Reusing scrap paper in the classroom	2011

Biodiversity

<i>Item</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Lizard lounge	Term 4 2010
Chicken coop	Term 4 2010
Greenhouse	2011
Worm farms	2011
Native plant program	2011
Continuous weeding of the school grounds	Ongoing
Rain water garden	2010
Citrus grove	2010
Identification of trees and plants around the school	2010

Water

<i>Item</i>	<i>Timeline</i>
Installation of more water tanks to be used for toilets/gardening	2012
Timers for water use	2011
More water efficient fittings to be installed	2011
Recycling water/ using grey water	2012
Constant maintenance of water fixtures	Ongoing on a yearly basis

RESOURCES

Sustainability Victoria at www.sustainability.vic.gov.au
AUSVic organisation at www.resourcesmart.vic.gov.au
St Kilda Eco Centre

EVALUATION

Yearly by Environment Sub Committee and School Council