

# Sustainability

## POLICY

### 1. PURPOSE

East Bentleigh Primary School recognises that the environment is integral to the quality of our student's lives. We endeavour to reduce our ecological footprint through adopting sustainable practises.

### 2. AIMS

- 2.1 To minimise landfill **waste** produced by the school and increase the percentage of material that is reused and recycled.
- 2.2 To reduce the amount of **energy** used by the school through greater efficiency and better practices as well as working towards utilising carbon neutral energy sources.
- 2.3 To increase the **biodiversity** of the school by planting indigenous species where possible and increasing the habitat area for local wildlife.
- 2.4 To minimise the consumption of mains **water** at the school through the improvement of plumbing systems and conservation programs.
- 2.5 To undertake a '**green purchasing**' program to reduce environmental impacts and educate the community on making environmentally friendly choices for life.

### 3. IMPLEMENTATION

#### **3.1 CURRICULUM FOCUS**

East Bentleigh Primary School will continue to implement a hands-on approach to education for sustainability through learning experiences and whole school events.

#### **3.2 WASTE**

- > To include the whole school community in the process of developing a 'Waste Wise' school.
- > To minimise and recycle our waste (eg. rubbish free lunches) as much as possible on a daily basis.
- > To continue to work towards litter-free school grounds.

#### **3.3 ENERGY**

- > To include the whole school community in the process of developing an 'Energy Efficient' school.
- > To use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- > To choose the most appropriate energy saving methods available.
- > To develop a program that promotes sustainable transport eg. walk-to-school.

### **3.4 BIODIVERSITY**

- > To encourage an appreciation of the natural environment through experiences eg. school camps.
- > To continue the 'seed to plate' education program and its impacts on land and biodiversity eg. Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden Program, Poultry Paradise...
- > To continue to increase biodiversity in the school yard.

### **3.5 WATER**

- > To involve the whole school community in the planning of water conservation initiatives.
- > To use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- > To choose the most effective means of conserving water eg. water tanks for flushing toilets.

### **3.6 GREEN PURCHASING**

- > To purchase 100% recycled paper for printers and photocopiers.
- > To utilise furniture and equipment made from second hand or recycled materials where possible.
- > To use more environmentally friendly products (eg. for cleaning) where possible.

### **EVALUATION**

This policy will be reviewed on a 3 year cycle.

This Policy was ratified by School Council in ....

**November 2010**