

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