

Sustainability Policy

Rationale

Kingswood cultivates a teaching and learning environment that is flexible, caring and focused on what is best for the students. As part of Kingswood Primary School's sustainability commitment we will endeavour to practice waste wise initiatives, promote energy efficiency, reduce water usage, increase biodiversity in the school gardens and encourage community practice in sustainability. We will also include the environmental plan in the curriculum.

Aims

1. Waste

To continue the development of a waste wise 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 practice waste wise principles of reduce, reuse and recycle; ensure the school undertakes green purchasing; and to reduce the cost of waste and litter management.

2. Energy

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

3. Biodiversity

To improve our outdoor natural environment; by planting trees that are conducive to our environment; upgrading 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.

4. Water

To prompt 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 and to conduct a water audit and maintain records of water consumption.

Implementation

1. Waste:

- Minimize and recycle our waste as much as possible on a daily basis.
- Encourage students to continue to use recyclable lunch bags for the canteen rather than paper bags.
- Send all food waste to the Stefanie Alexander Kitchen Garden compost.
- Reduce the amount of paper in the school by recycling and reusing it before it gets emptied into the recycle bin.

2. Energy:

- Reduce the costs of energy consumption within our school

Sustainability Policy

- Teachers implement a “switch off policy”, turning the lights off in their rooms when their class is not there and only turning on lights during the day as needed. Leave some lights off if there is enough natural light.
- Before leaving school on Friday afternoon, turn all power points off e.g. interactive TV.
- Use heating and air conditioning in an efficient way:
 - In summer if the temperature is less than 25 degrees then use the windows and fans to cool down the room rather than the air conditioner. If the temperature is over 25 degrees use the fans and keep the air conditioner within a range of 24-26 degrees.
 - In winter put the heating on in the morning at a temperature range of 19-21 degrees to warm up the room then turn it off later in the day and switch the fans to the reverse setting to push the warm air down.
- When appliances at the school break and need to be replaced we will endeavour to buy an energy efficient replacement based on star energy ratings.
- At large scale school events e.g. school assemblies, school fetes we will plan to reduce energy usage by using natural light etc.

3. Biodiversity:

- Create an environmental haven for students, staff and parents to enjoy.
- Continue our Stefanie Alexander Kitchen Garden program.
- Create an Indigenous garden.

4. Water:

- Reduce the water consumption within our school by:
 - Using rainwater for watering whenever possible including for oval irrigation and Stephanie Alexander Kitchen Garden.
 - Using rainwater tanks to supply water to the toilets.
 - Automatic flushing for the boys toilets so they cannot be flushed multiple times.
- Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- Choose the most effective means of conserving water i.e. install dual flush cisterns and efficient appliances.
- Involve students and staff in the planning of water conservation initiatives.

Curriculum Focus:

Our school's commitment to sustainability is shown through our Inquiry Units across grades P-6.

Energy:

Reduce Reuse Recycle (Grade 1)

Australia's natural and built features (Grade 6)

Sustainability Policy

Waste:

Reduce Reuse Recycle (Grade 1)

All Wrapped Up (Grade 3 & 4)

Biodiversity:

How Does Our Garden Grow? (Grade 3 & 4)

Australia is Wild and Wonderful (Grade 2)

Habitats (Grade 3 & 4)

Australia's natural and built features (Grade 6)

The Sea (prep)

Mini-beasts and Maxi-Beasts (grade 1)

Water:

Weather and Seasons (Grade 2)

Reduce Reuse Recycle (Grade 1)

Community Involvement

We will encourage community participation in all projects undertaken, as well as, invite parents with expertise to help maintain and improve our school environment, including the School Council and the Parent Club.

Responsibilities / Communication

All people within our school will be informed and responsible for implementing the above programs. The sustainability committee will be responsible for keeping records and reporting on the outcomes and progress of each program through the Resourcesmart Schools Program.

Action Plan

Our '**School Environment Management Plan**, outlines the four resource modules we will undertake over the next three years. They are **Biodiversity, Waste, Water and Energy**.

References

Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.

Review

Version	Edited By / Comments	Next Review
July 2015	Sustainability Team	2018