

### SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

#### **1. Rationale:**

1.1 Kingston Heath Primary School aims to become a sustainable school by reducing our ecological footprint by adopting sustainable practises in our everyday lives. We will achieve this by integrating sustainability into all areas of the curriculum. We will instil a sense of ownership and pride within the school community regarding the improvement of our environment. We will lead the community by demonstrating exemplary practices in waste management, water and energy usage, and continue to develop the school grounds to promote biodiversity.

#### **2. Aims:**

2.1 To promote sustainable living through educating the school community through our students.

2.2 To encourage community involvement in sustainable practices.

##### ***Energy***

2.3 To control energy consumption in order to reduce our impact on the natural environment.

2.4 To avoid unnecessary costs associated with wasting energy by educating students, staff and the whole community about best practices for use of energy consuming equipment and services.

##### ***Waste***

2.5 To continue the development of 4Rs - 'refuse, reduce, reuse and recycle'.

2.6 To reduce the cost of waste and litter management.

2.7 To provide and maintain a healthy and aesthetically pleasing learning environment through the reduction of waste and litter.

##### ***Biodiversity***

2.8 To improve our outdoor natural environment, by planting native/indigenous trees that are conducive to our environment.

2.9 To improve our vegetable garden by introducing more plants and involving our school community in the development and maintenance of the garden; using natural materials that reduce the impact on the environment.

##### ***Water***

2.10 To encourage the school community to reduce water usage.

2.11 To educate the community on ways to reduce water usage indoors and outdoors.

#### **3. Implementation:**

3.1 There will be an environmental focus incorporated into the inquiry unit across all year levels.

3.2 We will encourage community participation in environmental projects undertaken, as well as, invite parents with expertise to help maintain and improve our school environment.

3.3 All people within our school will be informed and responsible for implementing these programs. The various committees in conjunction with the Principal will be responsible for keeping records and reporting on the outcomes and progress of each program to the whole school community,

through school newsletters and the annual report. The parties involved will provide reports to staff and School Council outlining the goals, aims, costing, savings and other relevant issues. Each of the programs will be subject to annual review by school staff, student and School Council.

### **Energy**

- 3.4 Promote a 'switch off and save' policy for technological equipment, lighting and heating/cooling.
- 3.5 Students to engage in units of work relating to energy.
- 3.6 Conduct an energy audit and maintain records of energy consumption for continuous analysis.
- 3.7 Students will investigate the best ways to conserve energy.

### **Waste**

- 3.8 Assign a Waste Warriors team in all modules to dispose of waste and recycled products daily in the appropriate manner.
- 3.9 Reduce the packaging waste for school fundraising lunches.
- 3.10 Assign students to monitor rubbish free lunches and each term award the class who has the most rubbish free lunches.
- 3.11 Monitors from Year 4 to collect food waste weekly and transfer it to the compost bin at lunchtime daily.
- 3.12 Students to dispose of paper into recycling bins.
- 3.13 Use recycled paper for printers, photocopiers and scrap paper.
- 3.14 Promote the reuse principle of paper in classrooms, staffroom and office.

### **Biodiversity**

- 3.15 Consult local community members on ways to improve our garden (e.g. where to plant, what to plant).
- 3.16 Involve community members in planting and maintaining our gardens.
- 3.17 Engage students and staff in the development and maintenance of our gardens.
- 3.18 To grow and harvest a range of vegetables/herbs to be utilised in cooking classes and excess to be sold to the school community.

### **Water**

- 3.19 To promote a 'water-wise turn off' policy.
- 3.20 Students to engage in units of work relating to water conservation.
- 3.21 To assign students to monitor water usage and report wastage.
- 3.22 Plant trees and plants that require minimal watering.
- 3.23 Conduct a water audit and maintain records of water consumption for analysis.
- 3.24 Responsible use of tank water when watering gardens.
- 3.25 Use of tap key for all taps to save guard water usage.

## **4. Evaluation:**

- 4.1 This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle. This policy was ratified by School Council on 17<sup>th</sup> August 2015.