

Boroondara Park Primary School Policies	Written	October, 2016
ENVIRONMENT POLICY	Ratified	November 2016
	Review	November 2019

Rationale:

Boroondara Park 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 in our everyday lives.

Aim:

To provide environmental education through a whole school approach in which students understand their role in the physical surroundings as members, as well as have direct contact with the environment and practice in which they can make informed decisions about their physical surroundings.

To embed an environmentally conscious culture within the school community through curriculum and extra curricula activities.

Objectives:

- To minimise waste produced by the school and increase the percentage of material that is reused, recycled and composted.
- To reduce the amount of energy used by the school through smarter practices and greater efficiency as well as working towards using carbon neutral energy sources, such as solar panelling.
- To increase the biodiversity of the school by planting indigenous species and increasing the habitat area for local wildlife.
- To minimise the consumption of water at the school through the improvement of plumbing systems and conservation programs.
- To undertake a ‘green purchasing’ program to reduce environmental impacts and educate the community on making environmentally friendly choices for life.

Implementation:

WASTE

- Ensure litter-free school grounds.
- Operate in-house recycling programs such as paper/cardboard, flexible plastic, printer cartridges and other electronic waste.
- Reduce the amount of paper the school consumes by using email instead of hard copies
- Reduce the amount of recycling required.
- Reduce the amount of landfill produced.

ENERGY

- Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- Minimise energy use by using systems such as participation in Earth Hour each school week and National Ride2 School days annually.
- Choose the most appropriate energy saving methods available, such as, sensor lights, blinds and having appliances that are 4 star plus energy rating.

- Continue the Walk2School program that promotes sustainable transport and healthy lifestyle practices as well as the points as outlined in our 'Active School' policy.

BIODIVERSITY

- Continue to increase biodiversity in the school yard through participation in the 'Biodiversity in Schools' program.
- Plant indigenous plants in the school grounds and participate in National Tree Day annually.
- Continue to have yard clean ups and litter management, such as, eating inside, food only to be eaten in eating areas, nude food days and promotion to reduce packaging in lunch boxes.

WATER

- Involve the whole school community in the planning of water conservation and storm water quality initiatives.
- Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- Use effective means of conserving water, such as, water tanks for flushing toilets.
- Be a "Water – Learn It, Live It" school and achieve milestone accreditations in partnership with our water company.
- Choose the most appropriate water saving methods such as water tanks, water friendly gardens and having appliances that are 3 star plus.
- Regularly maintain facilities, such as leaking taps, toilets etc.

GREEN PURCHASING

- Implement a 'green purchasing' program where economically viable.
- Use environmentally friendly products (e.g. stationery, toilet paper, tissues, cleaning products).
- Purchase fair trade products where possible (e.g. soccer balls, coffee).
- Purchase 100% recycled paper for printers and photocopiers.
- Increase the use of furniture and equipment made from second hand or recycled materials??

Evaluation:

This policy will be reviewed with student, parent and community input as part of the school's three year review process.