



## **DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT**

As part of Stonnington Primary School's environmental commitment we will endeavour to:

- ✓ practice Waste Wise initiatives
- ✓ promote energy efficiency
- ✓ reduce water usage
- ✓ increase use of gardening projects
- ✓ encourage community practice in sustainability.

We will include these areas in our curriculum planning.

### **Rational:**

#### ***Energy***

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

#### ***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; to reduce the cost of waste and litter management.

#### ***Biodiversity***

To improve our vegetable garden by planting more plants and involving our school community in the development and maintenance of the garden.

#### ***Water***

To encourage the school community to reduce water usage; to appreciate water as a precious natural resource; educate the community on ways to reduce water usage and to conduct a water audit and maintain records of water consumption.

### **AIMS**

## ***Energy***

- Reduce the use of energy consumption within the school
- Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible
- Include students in the process of developing and maintaining an Energy Efficient school

## ***Waste***

- To increase the amount of recycled waste and reduce the amount of rubbish in classrooms
- To minimise the litter in the playground
- Students to take responsibility for disposing of food scraps, paper and rubbish in the appropriate manner
- To promote rubbish free lunches and reward those who participate regularly

## ***Biodiversity***

- Design a comprehensive garden plan prior to involving parents and the community
- To utilise our garden area to its full extent
- Involve community members in our garden from the seed to the table

## ***Water***

- To reduce the school's water consumption within the school
- To use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible
- To involve students and staff in the planning of water conservation initiatives
- Assign students to monitor water usage and report wastage

## **TARGETS**

We aim to achieve the following goals and targets over the next four years

1. To increase the school communities involvement in the vegetable garden
2. To reduce waste by 15%
3. To reduce water consumption by 15%
4. To reduce energy consumption by 20%

## **PLAN FOR PROGRAM IMPLEMENTATION**

### **CURRICULUM FOCUS**

There will be a whole school specific environmental focus each year.

### ***Energy***

- To promote a 'switch off and save' policy for technological equipment, lighting and heating/cooling.
- Students to engage in units of work relating to energy.

### ***Waste***

- To assign students to dispose of waste and recycled products daily in the appropriate manner.
- To assign students to monitor rubbish free lunches and award the class who has the most rubbish free lunches for the week.

### ***Biodiversity***

- Consult local community members on ways to improve our garden (e.g. Where to plant, what to plant).
- Involve community members in planting and maintaining our garden.
- Engage students and staff in the maintenance of our garden.
- To grow and harvest a range of vegetables/herbs and prepare tasty dishes for the whole school community to celebrate and enjoy.

### ***Water***

- To promote a 'water-wise turn off' policy.
- Students to engage in units of work relating to water conservation.
- To assign students to monitor water usage and report wastage.

### **Community Involvement**

We will encourage community participation in our environmental projects, particularly our community garden. We will also promote sustainable living through educating not only students, but their parents through our school newsletter.

### **Responsibility/ Communication**

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.

### **Action Plan**

Our Sustainable Schools Four Year Plan outlines the four resource modules we will undertake over the next four years; these are ***Biodiversity, Waste, Water and Energy***.

### **Evaluation:**

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

This policy was ratified by School Council on 26<sup>th</sup> November 2008