

# SUSTAINABILITY

## POLICY

### **Rationale:**

Our school, like all schools, has the potential to produce large amounts of solid waste. However, strategies that reduce waste lead to considerable benefits for the environment, financial savings for the school and opportunities for students to develop environmentally sound attitudes and habits.

### **Aims:**

To develop an environmentally conscious school culture that will reduce consumption and waste production in all college practices. Establish greater curriculum integration across faculties for a sustainable future which will increase student awareness of, and responsibility for, the environment. To develop links with our local community to improve issues with sustainability.

### **Implementation:**

- Our school has an unwavering commitment to environmental conservation by minimising waste and reducing consumption.
- Key action plan strategies will include:
  - Conducting curriculum audits to assess where, and to what extent, the aim of a sustainable school culture is being met. Curriculum will then be developed accordingly. The curriculum at all year levels will include waste minimisation, recycling, consumption reduction and include excursions to land fill sites and recycling depots
  - Professional development for staff to assist with achieving a sustainable school culture.
  - Ongoing waste monitoring and audits.
  - Aim towards a litter free canteen.
  - Photocopier limits, use of email and white boards.
  - Improved management of waste through the use of worm farms, gutter guardians, paper recycling, pruning chippers, designated eating areas, clean up days, washable utensils and lunch boxes vs. lunch bags,
  - Promotion of rubbish-free days and garbage free lunches
  - Incorporation of environmentally sustainable design (ESD) features in all building upgrades.
  - Implementation of ethical purchasing and consumer practices eg. Purchasing green power
  - Strong links developed with Latrobe Wilderness group.
  - Improved communication with the local council and state government, other schools and environmental groups to investigate other methods of waste minimisation.
  - Awards for reaching waste reduction targets and incentives or recognition awards being announced and distributed on World Environment Day.
  - Apply for sustainability grants.

### **Evaluation:**

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

This policy was last ratified by School Council in....

Aug 2007