



IRAMOO PRIMARY SCHOOL No. 5152

SUSTAINABILITY

POLICY

Rationale:

The purpose of Iramoo Primary School is to create an environment in which all children thrive in a world that is becoming increasingly difficult to predict.

Our intention is to create a school community where students, teachers and parents/guardians learn, work and live in a holistic and sustainable way that protects and enhances the environment now, and for the future. We aim to foster a culture at Iramoo where we create awareness of and educate for environmental sustainability. We will adopt practices that assist students and teachers to live sustainably.

Iramoo Primary School recognises that the way we learn and work at school can positively impact the environment and bring economic benefits through savings. We endeavour to reduce our ecological footprint through adopting sustainable practices in our everyday lives. We will achieve this by embedding an environmentally conscious culture within the school community through curriculum and extra curricula activities.

Aims:

- To minimise waste produced by the school and increase the percentage of material that is reused and recycled.
- To further 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.
- To increase the biodiversity of the school by planting indigenous species of 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.

Implementation:

We will:

- monitor our use of electricity, gas, water and waste through the website www.secure.resourcesmartschools.vic.gov.au
- ensure that appropriate posters and signage are located around the school to remind students and staff of sustainable practices
- deliver an integrated sustainability curriculum each year that is based on the Victorian Curriculum.

Areas of focus:

WASTE

- Minimise waste by using recycling bins and ensure that recycling bins are located in classrooms, learning spaces and common areas.
- Encourage students and staff to bring waste-free food to school. Teachers to record "Waste Free" lunch boxes once a week using the spreadsheet on Google Drive and celebrate during whole school assemblies.
- Maintain litter-free school grounds by encouraging students to put their rubbish in the bins.

- Continue in-house recycling programs for paper/cardboard, printer cartridges and other electronic waste.
- Minimise paper used by teachers by using online methods of delivering lesson resources such as Google Classroom, where possible.
- Provide electronic newsletters to parents/carers instead of paper copies where possible.

ENERGY

- Minimise energy use by participation in Victorian Walk to School month and National Ride2School days annually.
- Encourage students to actively travel to school on a regular basis by collecting weekly data and celebrating active travel at whole school assemblies.
- Minimise heating and cooling in the months with moderate temperatures, i.e. April and October, unless unseasonably hot or cold temperatures.

BIODIVERSITY

- Ensure that external ground improvements include planning for increased biodiversity within the school.
- Continue to have daily yard clean ups.
- Encourage the appreciation of the natural environment through relevant learning experiences, excursions and school camps.

WATER

- Encourage students to use drink bottles rather than drinking from taps during lesson times.
- Use the *Schools Water Efficiency Program* (SWEP) online resource to monitor water consumption.
- Regularly maintain facilities such as leaking taps and toilets.

Evaluation:

- Evaluate the reduction in the use of electricity, gas, water and waste through the website www.secure.resourcsmartschools.vic.gov.au
- Evaluate the reduction of printing via the ICT department.
- This policy will be reviewed as part of the school's three-year review cycle.