

# SUSTAINABILITY

## NARANGA SCHOOL POLICY

### School Environmental Management Plan (SEMP)

This document incorporates the sustainability policy, green procurement policy, achievements/future priorities document, communications plan and the school curriculum summary.

#### Declaration of Commitment:

*At Naranga School we reduce our school community's environmental impact by making positive choices. We focus on energy and water use, waste and improving our gardens. Naranga School promotes/supports healthy people and a healthy planet.*

#### Aim:

- To develop **an environmentally conscious culture** at Naranga School and its surrounding community.
- To improve **biodiversity** by increasing our school's **habitat quality index score as close to 75 as possible** by planting indigenous species of plants and increasing the habitat area for local and indigenous wildlife.
- To reduce the amount of **energy** through smarter practices and greater efficiency as well as working towards using carbon neutral energy sources:  
Electricity - 400kWh per student per year  
Gas 1.4GJ per student per year  
Greenhouse Gas - 0.6 tonnes CO<sub>2</sub> per student per year
- To minimise **landfill waste output to 0.3m<sup>3</sup> per student per year** and increase the percentage of material that is reused, recycled and composted.
- To minimise the consumption of mains **water to 4kL per student per year** through the improvement of plumbing systems and water conservation programs.
- To introduce '**green purchasing**' procedures for the school community in order to reduce environmental impacts and educate the community on making environmentally friendly choices for life.

#### Guidelines:

- **Curriculum** delivery will incorporate elements of sustainability at all year levels.
- The school will engage in **daily sustainable practices** that incorporate environmentally-friendly behaviours by utilising systems e.g. recycle bins, standby/shutdown systems
- The school will lead the **community** by demonstrating exemplary practices in waste management, water and energy usage, and develop the school grounds to promote biodiversity.
- The **School Environment Tracking System (SETS)** will be utilised to measure progress in reaching our targets, as well as completing modules in the Resource Smart AuSSI Vic framework. Examples of implementation will be provided in the comments on each ResourceSmart AuSSI Vic checklist in SETS to serve as a progressive action plan. Results from each audit will be added to 'Annual (Baseline) Data'.

**Implementation:**

The school will implement a hands-on approach to education for sustainability through the curriculum at each year level and whole school events. Student learning will focus on taking action within the school and wider community.

The school will support an active sustainability coordination team that involves School Council, staff, student leadership, students and parents.

**BIODIVERSITY**

- Undertake habitat assessments to gather information about biodiversity and identify areas for improvement.
- Encourage an appreciation of the natural environment through learning experiences e.g. curriculum, excursions and school camps.
- Enhance our vegetable garden and cooking program.
- Continue to increase biodiversity in the school yard in order to support local flora and fauna.
- Showcase native and indigenous gardens as model to the school and wider community.

**ENERGY**

- Undertake energy audits to gather information about energy usage and identify areas for improvement.
- Develop a program that promotes sustainable transport (e.g. walk-to-school) and undertake audits to measure improvement.
- Include the whole school community in the process of developing an 'Energy Efficient' school.
- Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- Choose the most appropriate energy saving methods available.
- Develop a program that promotes sustainable transport e.g. walk-to-school.
- Increase the use of carbon neutral energy sources.

**WASTE**

- Undertake waste and litter audits to gather information and identify areas for improvement.
- Include the whole school community in the process of developing a 'Waste Wise' school through the principles of 'Rethink/Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle'.
- Minimise landfill waste and maximise recycling and composting (e.g. rubbish free lunches, recycling bins, compost buckets and worm farms).
- Maintain litter-free school grounds.

**WATER**

- Undertake water audits to gather information about usage and identify areas for improvement.
- Appreciate water as a precious natural resource.
- Involve the whole school community in the planning of water conservation and storm water quality initiatives.
- Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- Choose the most effective means of conserving water (e.g. water tanks for flushing toilets).

**GREEN PURCHASING**

- Purchase environmentally-friendly paper for printers and photocopiers.
- Purchase environmentally-friendly paper alternatives for items like toilet paper, hand towels, tissues and serviettes.

- Increase the use of furniture and equipment made from second hand or recycled materials.
- Use more environmentally friendly products (e.g. for cleaning).

**Evaluation:**

- This policy will be reviewed as part of Naranga School's review cycle.
- The Annual Program Budget review will provide recommendations which may be used to effect policy change in future.
- Staff and community feedback will be sought to review the policy.
- The School Council and Sustainability Program Coordinators will review whether the school is reaching its environment targets, as outlined in 'Goals', twice a year.

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

**June 2018**