

Rationale:

With the general acceptance of both the onset and dangers inherent in global warming, it is incumbent upon all of the world's citizens to do what they can to minimise their production of greenhouse gases and the impact they have on their environment.

Schools play a leading role in being able to influence the attitudes and habits of upcoming generations. By implementing the ideals at a local level, practical examples can be demonstrated and a new way of thinking about practical sustainability can be introduced.

Aims:

- To improve the school's energy and water efficiency
- To minimise the school's ongoing energy costs and thereby allow more money to be spent on the school's primary purpose of education
- Provide a role model of sustainability for students and their families to emulate
- Promote the ideals of energy conservation, renewable energy, air quality and achieving a reduction in greenhouse gas emissions
- Minimise the wastage of water within the school and promote water conservation and re-use wherever possible.
- Encourage waste/litter minimisation and recycling
- Encourage biodiversity within the school grounds through developing drought tolerant vegetation that will attract native birds and insects

Implementation:

- Any new building development on school grounds are to be reviewed for their sustainability benefits. The energy efficiency of any new designs is to be maximised.
- Any new development of the school grounds and gardens are to be reviewed for their sustainability and environmental impact as well as their ability to enhance the solar efficiency of existing school buildings.
- The school will work towards becoming energy self-sufficient through the introduction of solar panels and/or other renewable energy sources. Any surplus energy will be fed back into the electricity grid to balance out the school's usage.
- The school will work towards reducing its energy requirements through ;
 - o The use of energy efficient light globes
 - o Monitor use of heating devices
 - o Monitor use of cooling devices
 - o Purchasing equipment with high energy efficiency star ratings
 - o Turning off equipment when not being used for extended periods
- The school will work towards the diversion of waste water into storage tanks for later re-use wherever possible.
- The school will work towards becoming water self-sufficient for the areas permitted to use recycled water such as toilet flushing, garden watering, etc.
- Introduce elements into the curriculum at all levels that support and demonstrate the ideals of sustainability.
- To establish student-friendly procedures and guidelines around the school focusing on sustainability and environmental awareness.

Evaluation:

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