



POLICY: ENVIRONMENT

*Manaaki whenua, manaaki tangata, haere whakamua.
Care for the land, care for the people, go forward.*

PURPOSE:

Stella Maris is committed to developing kaitiaki, guardians, to protect and sustain the beauty and wonder of God's creation.

Stella Maris will put in place practices and guidelines that enable us to reduce the school's impact on the environment through practices such as recycling, reducing energy usage, promoting biodiversity and making environmentally positive purchases.

The school aims to encourage our staff and students to become responsible local and global citizens with a recognised global responsibility.

PROCEDURES:

1. Take steps to involve staff, students and the wider community in sustainable practices, wherever the opportunity presents itself, that value biodiversity, energy and waste reduction, recycling practices, pollution reduction and protection of our natural environment and cultural heritage.
2. Actively promote the learning of and practices to REDUCE, REUSE, RECYCLE in order to minimise the amount of waste that is sent to landfill.
3. Take every practicable curriculum based learning opportunity to help students and staff gain a greater understanding of the relationship between humans and the natural world, plus our roles in learning and about new ways in which we can ensure a safe and sustainable future for our own and following generations.
4. Support the efforts of suitable external agencies/groups (e.g.: Wastewise, Sustainable Coastlines, etc) when possible, in their efforts to promote a clean, safe and sustainable school environment or a learning experience relating to the same goals.

POLICY REVIEW DATE:

This policy will be reviewed according to the Board's Effectiveness Review Programme.

APPENDIX

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.

Reduce the amount of greenhouse gas emissions.

Waste:

To minimise rubbish and recycle our waste throughout the school, as much as possible, on a daily basis.

To include the school community in the process of developing a Waste Wise school.

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:

To use a garden plan for the future development of our school grounds.

To utilise our garden area to its full extent.

To involve community members in maintenance of school grounds.

For each year level to have ownership in the upkeep of an area of school grounds.

Water:

To reduce the 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.