



# SUSTAINABILITY POLICY

## PURPOSE

To outline the processes that Templestowe Heights Primary School will follow to integrate environmental sustainability in practices and decision making.

## SCOPE

This policy applies to all students, parents/carers, staff, Council members and visitors.

## POLICY

Templestowe Heights Primary School recognises its responsibility for the stewardship of our environments and grounds and enhancing the quality of life for present and future generations. Templestowe Heights Primary School will incorporate sustainability into its practices and actions, particularly in relation to planning, curriculum and resource management.

### Principles

The following five principles will guide Templestowe Heights Primary School's practices toward sustainability:

1. Plan strategically for sustainability
  - Incorporate student voice in decision making and planning, especially through the Environment Captains
  - Integrate sustainability principles into all of Templestowe Heights Primary School's operations, activities and curriculum planning
  - Monitor performance towards sustainability using accurate data for planning and reporting purposes
  - Ensure that sustainability reporting is regular, accessible and transparent.
2. Sustainability knowledge
  - Incorporate sustainability in relevant curriculum and teaching and learning activities
  - Engage students, staff, parents/carers and visitors in sustainability initiatives to increase awareness
  - Encourage students and staff to work and live in more sustainable ways
  - Engage with communities to enhance knowledge of sustainable living and provide opportunities to challenge and expand thinking in order to benefit Templestowe Heights Primary School and the communities it serves.
3. School environment
  - Efficient use and management of school space and continual improvement of buildings to maximise space and efficiency consistent with the Department of Education's Provision and Planning Office

- Minimise disruption to the natural ecosystem of the campus
  - Conserve and enhance biodiversity through protecting and enhancing the native fauna and flora habitats on site and managing the pests and weeds that may threaten them
  - Design, construct and operate our built environment to the best practical environmental standards.
4. Sustainable resource management
- Promote efficient consumption of natural resources and enhance the contribution of energy efficient, low carbon measures and renewables wherever practicable
  - Adopt water efficient practices and technologies
  - Embed effective waste management practices that encourage the Templestowe Heights Primary School community to avoid, reduce, re-use, recycle and compost.
5. Operations
- Pursue a sustainable procurement strategy that carefully considers full life cycle costs, value for money, usability and other related social and environment impacts
  - Promote and encourage the use of sustainable forms of travel and transport to and from Templestowe Heights Primary School.

## FURTHER INFORMATION AND RESOURCES

Department of Education and Training environmental sustainability - <https://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/teachers/management/infrastructure/Pages/sustainability.aspx>  
ResourceSmart Schools - <https://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/School>  
Schools Water Efficiency Program - <https://www.myswep.com.au/>  
Smart Water Advice - <https://www.smartwatermark.org/Victoria/>

## REVIEW CYCLE

This policy was last updated on 18 September 2019 and is scheduled for review in September 2021.

