



LIWARA CATHOLIC OUTSIDE SCHOOL HOURS CARE *Sustainability Policy*

Policy Statement

Liwara Catholic Outside School Hours Care aims to develop and implement environmentally sound practices and programs that recognise our responsibility to protect and preserve the environment, and to foster in children an ongoing commitment to caring for the world in which they live.

How this policy will be implemented

The development and implementation of an environmentally sound code of practice underpinned by the principles of conservation and environment protection is an important part of our service's goals.

The following Code of Practice has been developed to this end which, for the healthy growth and well-being of both the children and adults, for the protection and care of the environment, and in order to maintain consistency and ongoing reinforcement of environmentally responsible behaviours and attitudes, we ask all parents, staff, students and visitors to recognise and practice the following at all given opportunities.

At our service we will endeavour to:

As part of our services daily routine and learning experience educators will encourage children to;

- Take care to ensure plants and animals are not harmed when playing outdoors
- Provide water in containers for sand or water play, soak paintbrushes and other activity utensils before washing them, discouraging water wastage by not running taps for extended periods.
- Ensuring drains are not used as a means of disposing unwanted materials
- Conserve energy by using natural light as much as possible and by turning off unnecessary lights when leaving rooms.
- Provide bins for recycling.
- Arrange for collection of waste, paper, plastics, aluminium, steel and glass.
- Display posters promoting sustainable practices throughout the service.
- Use recycled materials for collage, tinkering and construction experiences.
- Be alert to potential learning opportunities as they arise and extend these experiences by providing books and other resources whenever appropriate.
- Make use of the garden and outdoor environment as a learning environment and a natural resource.
- Incorporate key messages into learning areas from community and government agencies such as "Use Water Wisely" and "Reduce, Reuse, Recycle".
- Involve children in all activities in regard to gardening, recycling and care of our environment
- Promote community events such as earth hour, world environment day, clean up Australia day & water wise week" within our calendar of events.

During meal times educators and children will be encourage;

- Recycle unwanted water from cups and water bottles so it can then be used to water plants.
- Make use of scrap buckets at the service to store left over food scraps to be used for the school worm farms and the feeding of chickens.
- The use of utensils, plates, water bottles and cups that are reusable.
- The use of fresh seasonal produce for menu items.

In our service environment we will provide;

- Provide half-flush toilets and auto stop tapware.
- Products in bulk or stored in recyclable containers and avoid products with excess packaging when possible.
- Recycled paper for painting, drawing, collage and office notes.
- Usable containers with lids for storage limiting the use of disposable plastic wrap.
- Environmentally sound cleaning materials.
- Ensure that all things borrowed from the garden for play purposes are replaced in the garden after use
- A mixture of man made, natural, upcycled and recycled items within our learning areas.
- Where possible double-side photocopies and/or use the reverse side for written notes
- Native gardens areas within our grounds
- Guidelines for educators for water usage in line with water wise guidelines set out by Water Corporation of WA.
- Guidelines for energy saving
- Only use heating and cooling when necessary and to maintain the temperature setting at 24 degrees.
- Provide access to fresh air and natural light to our indoor and outdoor areas.
- Recycling bins within the service area.

When purchasing new equipment the following criteria will be taken into consideration

- Durability – is it built to last
- Versatility – can it be used in multiple ways, can it be up-cycled or recycled.
- Environmentally responsible – is it made from and packaged in environmentally sound materials

Appliances used by the service will, whenever possible -

- Be rated as being energy efficient (4/5 stars)
- Be used only when necessary and as per manufacturers instructions.
- Be serviced and maintained regularly to ensure they are running at peak performance.
- Be switched off at the power point when not in use.

And above all

- At all times our service aims to act as a positive role model within the service community by modeling attitudes, values and behaviors that demonstrate respect and care for ourselves, each other and our environment.

Relevant legislation and Standards links

National Quality Standard, Quality Area 1: Educational Program and Practice

National Quality Standard, Quality Area 3: Physical environment

References

Water Corporation WA

<http://www.watercorporation.com.au/home/teachers/activities-and-events/national-water-week>

Western Power Corporation Western Australia

<http://www.westernpower.com.au/corporate-information-education.html#Energy%20efficiency>

Little Green Steps

<http://www2.canterbury.nsw.gov.au/LittleGreenSteps/little-green-steps-report.pdf>

Review history

Review History		
Previous Review	Year of Review	Next Review
January 2015	January, 2017	January, 2019

Review History

Previous Review	Year of Review	Next Review
April 2015	February, 2017	February, 2019