



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.

RATIONALE

PROCEDURES

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.
- 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 mealtimes educators and children will be encouraged to:

- 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 re-usable utensils, plates, water bottles and cups.
- 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.
- 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 23 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 upcycled or recycled.
- Environmentally responsible – is it made from and packaged in environmentally sound materials

Appliances used by the service will

- Be rated as being energy efficient (4/5 stars) wherever possible
- Be used only when necessary and as per manufacturers instructions.
- Be serviced and maintained regularly to ensure they are running at peak performance.

And above all

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

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Relevant legislation and Standards links

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

National Quality Standard, Quality Area 3: Physical environment

Review History		
Previous Review	Year of Review	Next Review
February, 2017	May 2018	May 2019
May 2018	May 2019	May 2020
May 2019	April 2020	April 2021