**HAMILTON NORTH PRIMARY SCHOOL**

**SUSTAINABILITY POLICY**

**Hamilton North Primary School Statement**

Hamilton North Primary School at all times will fully comply with Departmental management and the associated Guidelines published and amended by the Department from time to time.

**Purpose of this Policy**

Hamilton North Primary School will work towards becoming the most sustainable school community that we can be. Staff and students are positive role models for sustainability within our community and strive towards preservation of a healthy environment for all, both now and in the future. Hamilton North Primary School develops responsible, resilient and respectful citizens who make informed decisions to reduce their impact on the environment.

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| **Hamilton North Primary School is committed to:** | |
| **1.** | Developing an environmentally conscious culture at Hamilton North Primary School and its surrounding community |
| **2.** | Minimising landfill waste and increase the percentage of material that is reused, recycled and composted |
| **3.** | To reduce the amount of energy per student per year through smarter practices and greater efficiency as well as working towards using carbon neutral energy sources |
| **4.** | To increase the biodiversity and habitat quality score of the school grounds by planting indigenous species and increasing the habitat area for local wildlife |
| **5.** | To minimise the consumption of mains water per student per year |
| **6.** | To introduce ‘green purchasing’ procedures for the school community in order to reduce environmental impacts, including notices and articles of such procedures in our school newsletter to educate the community on making environmentally friendly choices for life |

**Implentation**

Our school will implement a hands-on approach to education for sustainability through the curriculum at each year level and whole school events. Student learning will focus on taking action within the school and wider community.

Our school will support an active sustainability coordination team that involves School Council, staff, student leadership, students, parents and other members of our school community and local community.

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| **Waste** | Include the whole school community in the process of developing a waste wise school through the principles of Rethink, Refuse, Reduce, Reuse and Recycle |
| Minimise landfill waste and maximise recycling and composting (eg: rubbish free lunches, recycling bins, compost buckets and worm farms) |
| Maintain litter free school grounds |
| **Energy** | Include the whole school community in the process of developing an Energy Efficient school |
| Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible |
| Choose the most appropriate energy saving methods available |
| Increase the use of carbon neutral energy sources |
| **Biodiversity** | Encourage an appreciation of the natural environment through learning experiences eg curriculum, excursions and school camps |
| Continue to increase biodiversity in the school yard in order to support local flora and fauna |
| Showcase native and indigenous gardens as model to the school and wider community |
| **Water** | Appreciate water as a precious natural resource |
| Involve the whole school community in the planning of water conservation and water quality initiatives |
| Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible |
| Choose the most effective means of conserving water |
| **Green Purchasing** | Provision of environmentally friendly paper for printers and photocopiers |
| Provision of environmentally friendly paper alternatives for items like toilet paper, hand towel, tissues and serviettes |
| Use more environmentally friendly products (eg for cleaning) |

**Evaluation**

The Annual Program Budget review will provide recommendations which may be used to affect policy change in the future.

Staff, students and community feedback will be sought to review the policy.

The School Council and staff will review whether the school is reaching its environment targets on a yearly basis.

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| Office Use Only |  |
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| Last Review Date |  |
| Next Review Date | June 2017 |