

Help for non-English speakers



If you need help to understand the information in this policy, please contact Mount Clear College on 03 5330 1500 or mount.clear.sc@education.vic.gov.au

Purpose

To outline to our school community the Department's and Mount Clear College's policy requirements relating to promotion of sustainable use of resources.

School sustainability vision and principles

Is to be widely recognised as providing outstanding opportunities and pathways that inspire individual excellence.

- **CARE** – Fostering positive relationships with each other, our families, environment and our local and global communities
- **COMMITMENT** – To sustainable living, learning and the pursuit of individual growth
- **RESPECT** – Ourselves, each other and our environment.
- **RESPONSIBILITY** – For the impact of our actions on ourselves, others and the school environment.

Rationale

Mount Clear College recognises the importance of becoming a sustainable school for the benefit of the Earth's environmental health. By managing resources efficiently and embedding education and sustainable practices, we will motivate the whole school community to live more sustainably.

We honour and draw upon the knowledge of the First Nations people and their relationship with the land. We believe that fostering a positive attitude and appreciation of sustainable environmental practice is vital to the development of our students, will contribute towards the health of our community, and reduce our impact on the Earth.

Aims

- To educate our students, and subsequently their families, in responsible energy usage, water efficiency, waste management and environmental awareness.
- To protect the environment through a proactive approach to conservation and environmental issues.
- To practise resource efficiency.
- To increase the biodiversity of the local environment.
- To practise effective waste minimisation and management.
- To reduce resource costs and carbon footprint.
- To promote the value of living sustainably.
- To achieve and maintain star accreditation status in accordance with the ResourceSmart Schools (RSS) program, led by Sustainability Victoria.

Policy

Implementation

Sustainability is the responsibility of staff, students, and parents/carers.

The school will:

- ensure curriculum delivery incorporates elements of sustainability at all year levels, in line with the Victorian Curriculum Cross-Curriculum Priority
- establish and support a sustainability team that reports to school governance bodies
- engage in sustainable actions that are promoted through the RSS framework
- lead in exemplary practices in waste management, water and energy usage
 - Turn off lights, heating/cooling and Televisions when not in use
 - Mindful to print only what we need and consider alternative options before doing so
- develop and use the school grounds to increase local biodiversity
- use the RSS Framework and RSS Online to monitor the school's progress towards meeting resource saving targets
- develop and maintain a School Environmental Management Plan (SEMP)
- encourage 'green events' (refer to Green Events Policy)
- promote sustainability by reporting achievements to the school and local community
- include 'Sustainability and Environment' as a standing agenda item for the school council/board and report results annually (at least).

Related policies and resources

- Green Purchasing Policy
- ResourceSmart School Memorandum of Understanding
- School Environmental Management Plan
- ResourceSmart Schools Online: my.resourcesmartschools.vic.gov.au THIS LINK REQUIRES A SIGN-IN
- Sustainability Victoria: www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/schools THIS LINK IS THE RESOURCE SMART SCHOOLS

Review Cycle and Evaluation

This policy will be reviewed annually or more often if necessary due to changes in regulations or circumstances dictate.

Version Date	5 August 2024
Policy Date	5 August 2024
School Council Approval Date	Information only – August 2024
Person Responsible	Assistant Principal – Operations and Sustainability/Environment (College Grounds) position
Next Review Date	August 2025