

---

## Sustainability Education Policy-

Status: Review, September, 2016  
Education Sub-Committee

---

### Rationale:

When environmental and sustainability education is incorporated into the school curriculum, students:

- learn **about** the environment
- develop skills to investigate and solve issues **in** the environment
- acquire attitudes of care and concern **for** the environment
- adopt behaviours and practices which **protect** the environment, and
- understand the principles of ecologically sustainable development

### Aims:

- To promote exemplary practices in decreasing consumption of energy, water and waste management services.
- To broaden the understanding and awareness of the need to live sustainably whilst enriching the biodiversity of our surroundings.
- To participate in activities which will encourage others to become sustainable.
- To create links to environmental issues in our local, state, national and international communities.
- To reduce resource consumption (water/energy consumption and waste) as well as conserve/improve the natural environment (biodiversity).

### Guidelines

- RHPS will follow Department Guidelines to consider, manage and monitor environmental practices.  
<http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/infrastructure/pages/sustainability.aspx>
- RHPS curriculum is underpinned by an **understanding** of sustainable issues, the building of **skills** through an Inquiry approach, and a strong commitment to the **social context** of sustainability at RHPS.

### Implementation

- All resources will be monitored to ensure that usage is reduced to minimum levels without compromising efficiency, comfort and safety.
- A whole school approach will be implemented to ensure that best practice is sought and adopted.
- Students will be encouraged to bring rubbish free lunches to school.
- All site management, particularly that pertaining to usage of water, energy, waste management and biodiversity will be carried out according to the established principles of economically sustainable development.
- Efforts will be made to facilitate resource sharing, use local expertise, engage in joint projects and build reciprocal relationships with all levels of government, non-government organisations, service clubs and committed residents.
- Sustainability will be part of the whole school curriculum through activities that include sustainability themes across all Levels and Inquiry Units.
- Relevant standards in the Victorian Curriculum should be clearly identified at all levels.
- The teacher in charge of Sustainability Education will coordinate whole school participation in at least one national event per year, for example, National Tree Day or Clean Up Australia Day.

### Evaluation

The Environmental Education Policy shall be reviewed annually with a major review undertaken every three years by the Education Sub-committee of School Council.

### References

- <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/school/principals/spag/infrastructure/pages/sustainability.aspx>
- <http://www.sustainability.vic.gov.au/Services-and-Advice/Schools>
- <http://ifs.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/ifs/home#>
- <http://www.yarraranges.vic.gov.au/Community/Environment/Sustainable-Schools>