



## SWALLOWCLIFFE PRESCHOOL

### Sustainability Policy

#### RATIONALE

Swallowcliffe Preschool aims to become a sustainable learning site through encouraging and increasing awareness of environmental responsibilities and adopting sustainable practices. We will achieve this by integrating sustainability into the curriculum through play, inquiry topics, embedding it into routines and instilling a sense of ownership, pride and respect in caring for the environment.

#### AIM

- To control energy consumption and the impact on the natural environment.
- To continue the development of teaching and learning about the environment through the reduction of waste.
- To maintain our natural outdoor environment.
- To encourage reduced water usage and to appreciate water as a precious natural resource.
- To maintain a clean and safe play environment that our Preschool Community can be proud of.

#### OBJECTIVES

- Promoting respect and appreciation for the natural environment.
- Fostering children's capacity to understand and respect the natural environment.
- Supporting positive attitudes and values in line with sustainable practices.
- Ensuring educators engage in sustainable practices during the operation of the services.
- Maintain a safe and clean play environment.

#### GUIDELINES

This policy provides guidelines for Swallowcliffe Preschool to implement procedures for sustainable practices.

- Curriculum delivery will incorporate elements of sustainability.
- The Preschool will engage in daily sustainable practices that encourage environmentally-friendly behaviours by utilising systems (recycle bins, compost bins etc).

#### Energy

- Reduce the use of energy consumption within the Preschool.
- Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- Include children in the process of developing and maintaining energy efficient practices at home and at Preschool.

**Our Mission:** To empower students to recognise and optimise their full learning potential.





# Swallowcliffe P-7

We value **Honesty, Respect, Achievement**

## Waste

- To minimise rubbish and recycle our waste through the Preschool as much as possible.
- To accept donations and reuse/repurpose as much as possible in the Preschool.
- Children to take responsibility for disposing of food scraps, recyclables and rubbish in the correct bins.
- To promote nude food and rubbish free lunches.

## Biodiversity

- To utilise our garden area to its full extent.
- To involve community members in the development and maintenance of the Preschool garden.

## Water

- To use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- To involve children and staff in the planning of water conservation initiatives.

## PROCEDURES

Our Preschool will implement a play based approach to education for sustainability through the Early Years Learning Framework (EYLF).

- Educators will make sustainable practices a part of the daily routines. These include: Reusing, Repurposing, Recycling, Gardening, Composting, Energy Conservation, Water Conservation and Sustainable Equipment Purchases.

## Energy

- To promote an understanding of 'switch off' for technological equipment, lighting and heating/cooling.
- Educators to role model energy and water conversation practices.
- Students will investigate the best ways to conserve energy.
- Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.

## Waste

- Children to dispose of paper into recycling bins.
- Food scraps are used to feed the Preschool rabbit/pets or the compost. Excess food scraps can go home with families to feed their pets.
- Use the process "Waste Wise" through the principles of Rethink/Reuse, Reduce and Recycle.
- Minimise landfill waste and maximise recycling and composting eg rubbish free lunch, recycling bins, compost buckets, worm farm.
- Role model sustainable practices.
- Discuss sustainable practices with the children and families as part of the EYLF.

## Biodiversity

- Consult local community members on ways to improve our garden.
- Involve community members in planting and maintaining our garden.
- Engage children, parents/caregivers and educators in the maintenance of our garden.
- Encourage an appreciation of the natural environment through learning experiences.

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Government of South Australia  
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Child Development

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# Swallowcliffe P-7

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## Water

- To promote 'water wise turn off'.
- Children to engage in water conservation practices.
- Continue to plant trees and shrubs that require minimal watering.
- Use tank water where possible.
- Appreciate water as a precious natural resource.
- Use resources and equipment as efficiently as possible.
- Choose the most effective means of conserving water.

## Green Purchasing

- Increase the use of furniture and equipment made from second hand or recycle materials.
- Use more environmentally friendly products eg for cleaning.
- Aim to purchase equipment that is eco-friendly where possible.

## FUNDING SOURCES

- Use of parent volunteer time and labour.
- Use of donated items.
- Applying environmental knowledge to creatively use existing resources.
- Seeking external funding.

## LINKS TO - National Quality Standards, EYLF, Regulations

- Guide to the National Quality Standard. ACECQA 1.2.1, 3.2.3, 6.1.1, 6.2.3
- The EYLF for Australia, Belonging, Being and Becoming
- Education and Care Services National Regulations: Schedule 1

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Reviewed:

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